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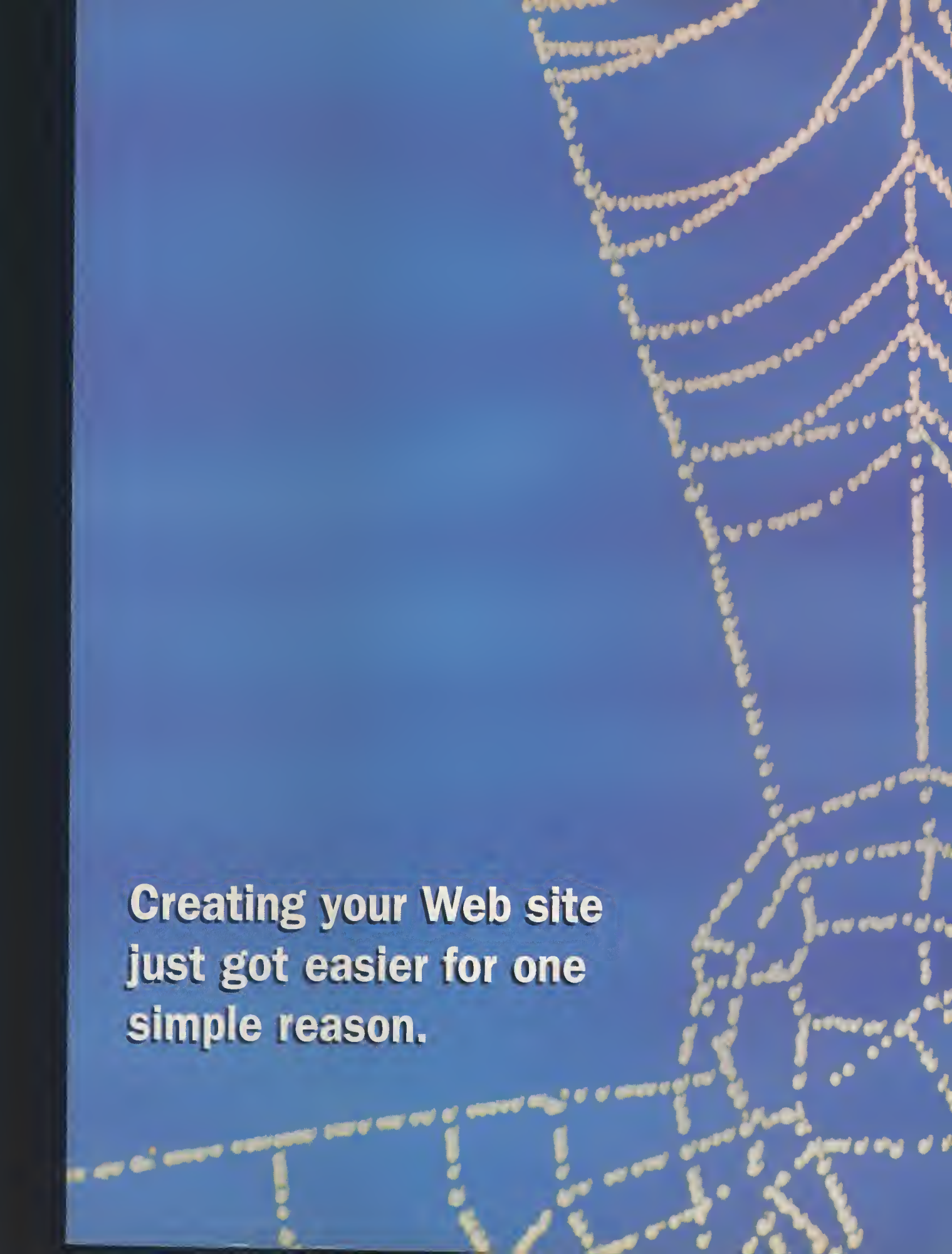
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just got easier for one
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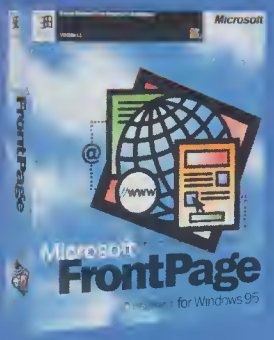
Introducing Microsoft FrontPage. The easy and fast way to create and manage your Web site.



Start™

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Microsoft FrontPage gets you up and running fast. With the help of Wizards and templates, you can create unique individual pages or Web sites for an intranet or the Internet easily. And with WebBot™ components, you can add great features like forms, full-text searches, and other interactive functions so your site will really come to life.

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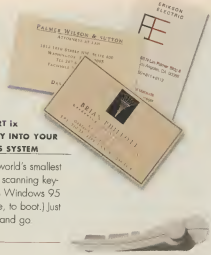

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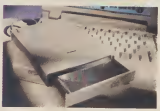

Sweet Seventeen

Finally there's no excuse to settle for less than a 17-inch monitor. Today's high-resolution displays let you see what you've been missing in Windows—and they cost less than you'd expect! **155**

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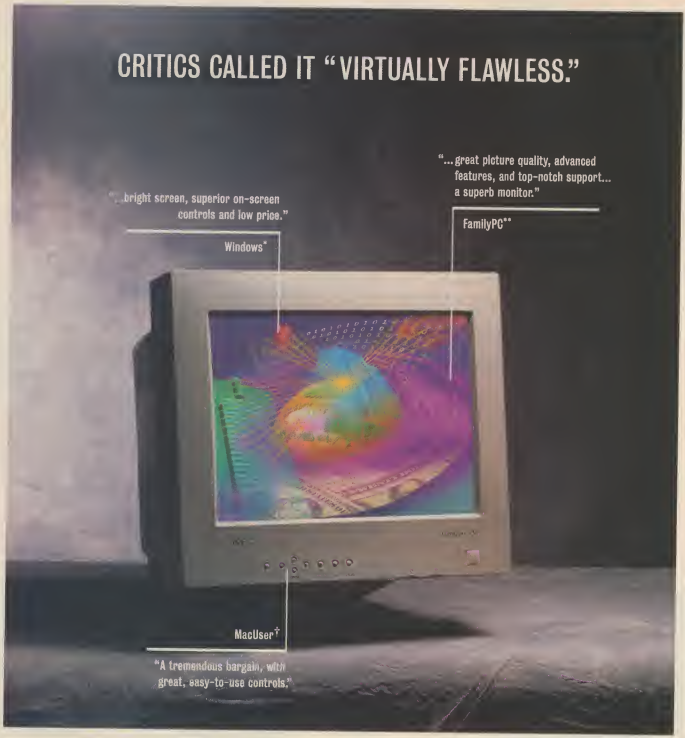

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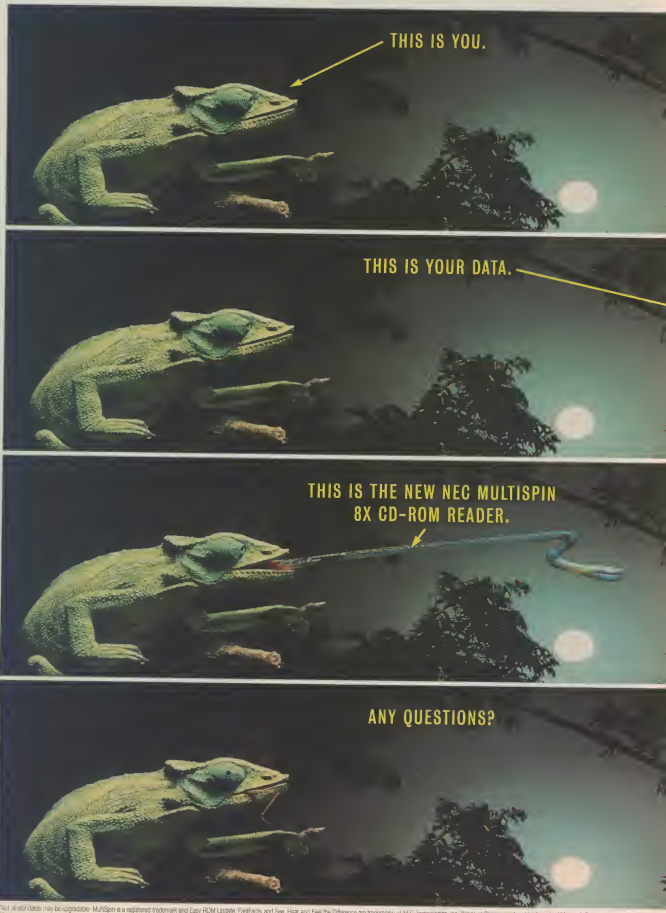

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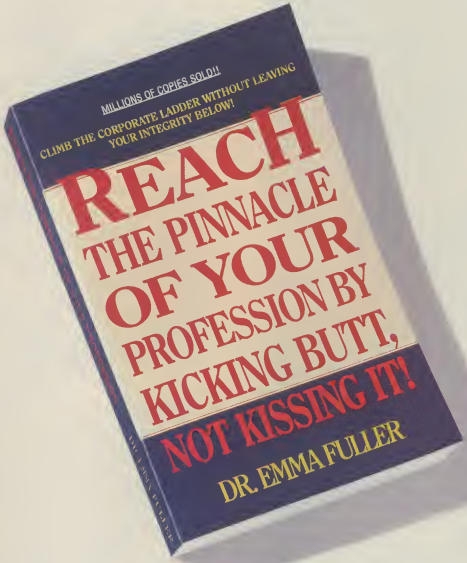

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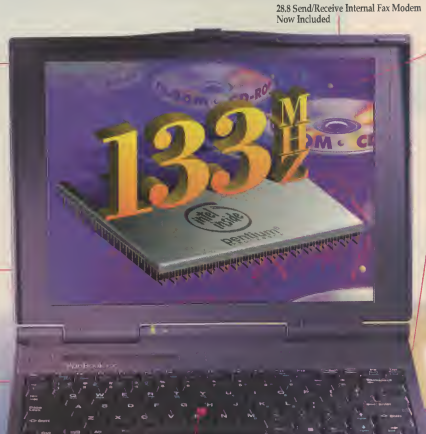

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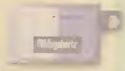

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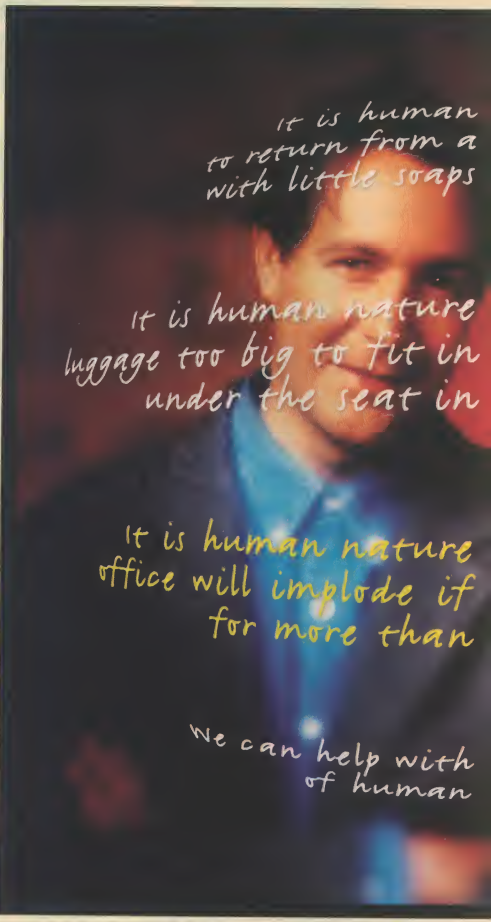

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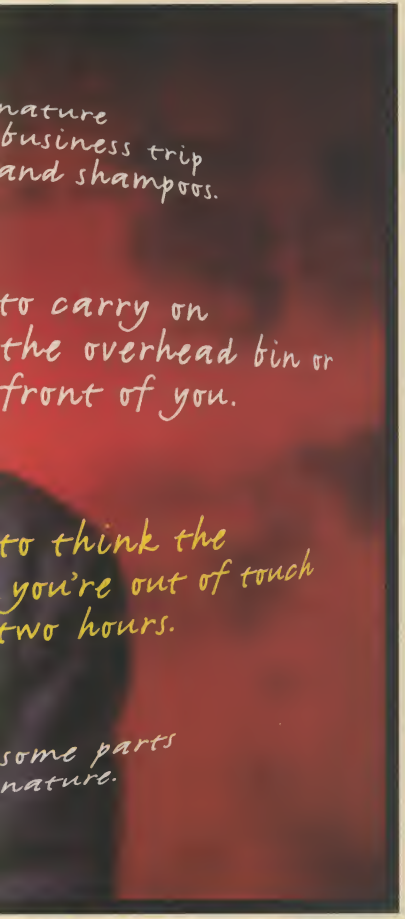

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ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER/WEST COAST William P. Howard, (415) 578-7570

NATIONAL SALES MANAGER Lucy Wohltman, (415) 578-7073

ADVERTISING COORDINATOR David McCaman, (415) 578-7031

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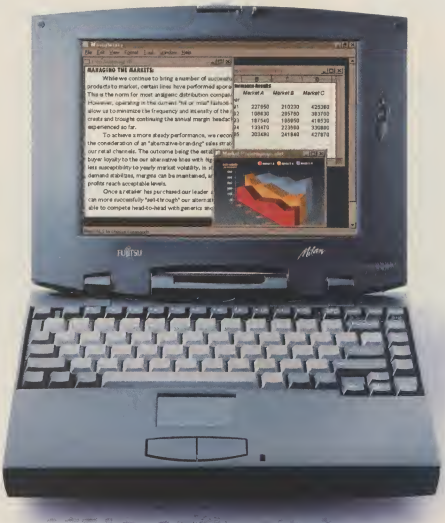

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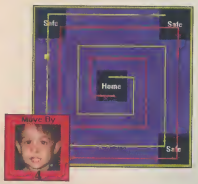

Sneak Peeks

Can't wait for the next issue of *PC Computing*? Then don't! Visit our Web site for an early look at reviews in upcoming issues, including a sneak peek of new Internet appliances, the first AMD K5 system, Corel Office Professional 7, and smart Web publishing tools.

Table for One, Please

Slip on into the PCC Café for a daily dose of technology news and information, including a quote of the day, new-site listings, and more daily sites, another tech tip—well, you get the idea. Stop by today.

Tips and Tricks

Before you call tech support, check out our "Tech Tips" section online. We gather the top secrets, workarounds, and FAQs for many popular apps, including Microsoft's Word and Excel, Lotus's 1-2-3, and Netscape's Navigator.

Ultimate Web Toolkit

Want to get your hands on the 200 Web tools featured in this month's cover story, "Ultimate Web Publishing Guide" (page 112)? Then visit our Web Map, where you'll find live links to all the tools and sites mentioned in this article.

PC Computing

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WEB COLLABORATION

Intranets in Action

I found your article on intranets very interesting ("Intranet Explosion," June, page 145), and it came at just the right time. Not two weeks ago I started working on an intranet project of my own. Our company has been grappling with the problem of getting documents and pictures to the workplace floor for about two years. An intranet system will streamline our company and make everything fun again. I can't wait.

RICHARD LANGIS, JR.
VIA THE INTERNET

Internet Ad-ons

Victor Escobar's concern about the lack of a payment structure on the Internet is unfounded ("No Free Lunch," Mail, May, page 23). I have seen a proliferation of advertising on the Internet, even on the "free" Web site where I maintain my home page. I guess there are lots of reasons for the ads. Many companies want to improve the value of their sites to increase the hit rate to their server. Also, the audience for each Internet site is highly focused, allowing advertisers to target markets more specifically. With 28.8Kbps modems, Internet advertising is here to stay. But who knows what will happen when ISDN becomes de rigueur?

TREVOR PINTO
VIA THE INTERNET

Other Net Avenues

I was very happy to see the newsstand map insert, "Beyond the Web," included with your June issue. It's refreshing to see a publication that realizes the World Wide Web isn't the only useful part of the Internet. Thank you, *PC Computing!*

JOHN PRUESS
VIA AMERICA ONLINE

THE WEB IS THE GRAPHICAL
and most popular portion of the Internet, but the Net also includes FTP servers, Gopher servers, Internet Relay Chat servers, and more.

It's Bill's Money

I'm no cheerleader for Bill Gates or Microsoft, but enough is enough! Merdin Criddle's comment that Gates could have purchased 2,000 computers for every million dollars he spent on his house is absurd ("Children, Not Castles," Mail, June, page 30). Gates has no obligation to provide computers (or anything else, for that matter) to anyone. If one considers the taxes paid by all the people employed by Microsoft for things like education, then one must acknowledge that this is indeed a contribution to the social good. I believe in giving, and a portion of my income goes to charity each week. How about you, Mr. Criddle? Do you put your money where your mouth is—or just Bill Gates's money?

MARK HEPBURN
VIA THE INTERNET

Dreaming of NT

Your June review of Hewlett-Packard's and Micron Electronics' new 200MHz systems ("Windows NT at 200MHz," page 70) makes me think you could use a few more NT technicians on your staff. According to the NT Hardware Compatibility List (HCL)—the Holy Grail if you support NT in a dynamic environment—only a handful of machines faster than 133MHz are certified to work with NT. There are no 200MHz machines on the list, and Microsoft representatives told me the list will be updated in July. Believe me,

Things that are
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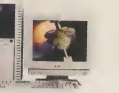

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- **1.6 Gigabyte Enhanced IDE HD**
- **Integrated PCI Graphics** with 1-MB video RAM (expandable to 2-MB)
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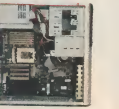
Why the ALR Evolution Dual6? Because the business world is going 32-bit. Windows® 95 and Windows NT Workstation are just the beginning. If your favorite power applications aren't **32-bit now**, they will be soon. And no PC handles 32-bit applications better than the ALR Evolution Dual6. With its 200-MHz **Pentium® Pro** chip, it offers up to 75% more 32-bit performance than a 200-MHz Pentium chip-based system. And your accountant probably won't even notice the price difference.

MICROSOFT WINDOWS NT COMPATIBLE



With ALR's InfoManager hardware management system built-in, the Evolution Dual6 can actually pinpoint potential problems before they lead to costly downtime

But as a professional, you know there's more to a professional business system than power. That's why we've given the Evolution Dual6 room for up to 512-MB of RAM... enough to run dozens of applications simultaneously! You can also add over 6-GB of data storage without having to purchase any additional controller cards. Even processing power is expandable. Upgrading to Dual Processing is as easy as plugging in a second 200-MHz Pentium Pro chip.

Try doing that with one of our competitors' systems.

While you're at it, try comparing warranties. You'll find that the ALR Evolution Dual6's 5 Year/36 Month warranty leads the industry. Register in ALR's ProCare program, and we'll even include one year of on-site service*. How can we afford such a lavish service and support program? Simple. Our systems are engineered for performance *and* reliability.

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Circle 119 on reader service card.

if you need NT to run reliably, you don't want to stray from the HCL. It's just not worth the headache. So while the dream of a 200MHz NT server is enticing to say the least, is it just a dream for now?

MARK BAKER
VIA THE INTERNET

YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT about the importance of the Hardware Compatibility List, but the May list includes at least three 200MHz machines already. A smart NT administrator shouldn't have a problem evaluating these new servers in anticipation of the ship date for NT Server 4.0—which is when we predict Hewlett-Packard's and Micron Electronics' systems will be on the updated HCL.

Bundling Browsers

You covered the four main browsers pretty well in your June Web feature ("Internet at Warp Speed," page 118), but I think you missed some key points. You considered the browsers only as bundled Internet suites. Better options that involve choosing separate software packages for the browser, e-mail, newsgroups, and more, are also available. A good Internet service provider gives you freedom to pick and choose different Internet components.

BILL BROCKMAN
VIA THE INTERNET

CHOOSING SEPARATE APPLICATIONS for your Internet experience is indeed a flexible option. But most users are more comfortable with the convenience of "one-stop shopping." Internet suites integrate all Net features into one easy-to-use package.

AOL or MSN?

In your Pulse story "Caught in the Web" (June, page 36) you state that "America Online will be embedded in the next update of Windows 95." Is this true? If Microsoft actually did this, wouldn't it be a stupid move? With Microsoft Network already embedded into Windows 95, this could draw potential customers away from Mr. Gates's online service and toward America Online. I'm confused!

DAVID BAKER
VIA THE INTERNET

YES, AMERICA ONLINE'S ICON will go into a folder on the Windows 95 desktop, right alongside Microsoft Network's icon. With a million Microsoft Network subscribers already, Gates and Company apparently believe there's enough room on the desktop for both icons.

Winsock Worries

I'm new to the Internet. I signed up with an Internet service provider (ISP) that offers only a 16-bit suite. I have Windows 95 and tried to sign on using its 32-bit Winsock but had no luck. Is there a solution that lets me connect to my ISP and use Netscape's 32-bit Navigator with Java? Any help would be greatly appreciated.

GEORGE PETROV
VIA THE INTERNET

ASK YOUR ISP if you can use Netscape's Navigator 3.0 for Windows 95 instead of the 16-bit suite that it provides. Since your ISP is merely selling a service—an Internet connection—you should be able to use whatever software you want to connect. If not, cancel your account and sign up with another ISP, such as AT&T or NetCom.

What About WebPhone?

I want to thank you for the fantastic section on Internet power tools in your May issue (New!, page 58). It made a recent cross-country flight bearable and fast. However, I was surprised that you didn't include NetSpeak's WebPhone in your Internet telephone reviews ("Free Phone Calls on the Net," page 66). I've tried almost all the Internet telephone products available and have found WebPhone to be superior in price, performance, and usability. With it I can leave voice mail with other WebPhone users whether they're online or offline.

ROBERT MCHENRY
VIA THE INTERNET

THANKS FOR THE TIP. Check out its Web site at www.itelco.com. We're always reviewing new Net products, so stay tuned. You can also look for dozens of other products in our new Inter.net section on page 318.

Things that are
inexpensive.

{Newspaper}

{Bug}

{NETGEAR™}

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Imperfect WordPerfect Review?

In your May "Word Processor Superguide" (page 149), Woody Leonhard claims that *PC Computing*'s Usability Labs found that in many ways the war of the word processors is over, that Microsoft's Word has become the de facto standard in the world of business, and that Word has edged out both Lotus's Word Pro and Corel's WordPerfect in usability and mind share.

I was disappointed to see such subjective editorializing in the pages of *PC Computing*, which has traditionally been fair and impartial in its writing. Perhaps Leonhard's biased writing toward Word comes from his history of creating Word add-on products, and the fact that he has authored several books about Word. It seems he has a vested interest in seeing Microsoft's Word succeed.

The facts of the testing should speak for themselves. A usability study among 20 people is hardly grounds for measuring what the "de facto standard" and "mind share" are for the business world. The fact is that WordPerfect's 20-plus million users make up a large percentage of the word-processing market.

Leonhard's claim that WordPerfect is due for a 32-bit update is true, and Corel proudly shipped WordPerfect Suite 7 for Windows 95 in May, only three months after acquiring the leading word processor. The word-processing war is still on, and Leonhard, Microsoft, and *PC Computing*'s readers should be well aware that the competition is strong and healthy.

MICHAEL COWPLAND
CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT, CEO
COREL CORPORATION

ALL OUR USABILITY TESTING is based on a strict, time-tested, replicable scientific methodology. Industry-standard usability studies have demonstrated repeatedly that tests with as few as 4 subjects provide at least 80 percent accuracy. To be safe, our tests normally include 8 or more subjects. For this test, we used a relatively huge number of subjects—20—to ensure absolutely unbiased and repeatable results in a world where everyone has an opinion on word processors and loyalties run deep. The conclusions printed in the story reflect the test results—which measure productivity and satisfaction—rather than anyone's opinions, and we stand behind them.

Circle 118 on reader service card.

For the Record

In our April feature "Essential E-mail" (page 155), we misstated the prices for Microsoft's Exchange server and clients. The estimated street prices are $529 for Microsoft's Exchange Server and $54 for each client.

DO YOU USE THE INTERNET MORE FOR WORK OR PLAY? Send your thoughts about this and other subjects to Mail, *PC Computing*, 950 Tower Lane, 19th Floor, Foster City, CA 94404; fax, (415) 578-7059; Internet, 72241.1724@compuserve.com; or CompuServe, 72241,1724. Letters are subject to editing for length and clarity.

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{Mom}

{Your Best Friend}

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Exhibit B: TeamConsolidate.™ Here the author can review everyone's edits and decide which comments to incorporate. And then, with a click of a button, collapse accepted comments into one revised document. (This might be a good time to start warming up those pipes of yours, because you'll be singing the praises of SmartSuite just a few paragraphs from now.)

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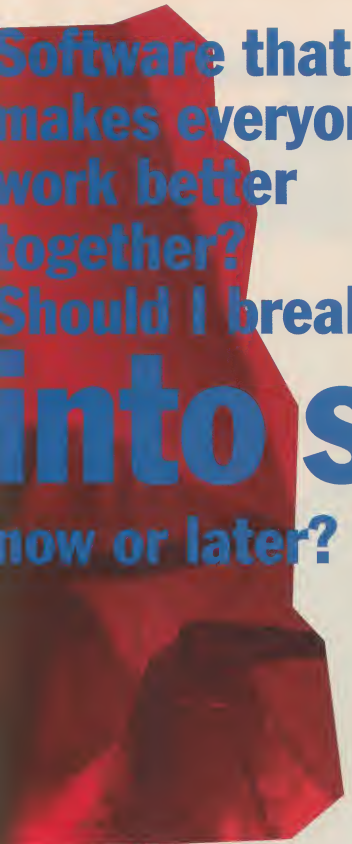

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Pulse

Digital Video Drives,

FUTURE CDs

Lights, DVD, Action!

Rolling: DVD drives that deliver full-screen video and eight times the capacity of a CD-ROM drive are expected by year's end.

CD-ROM, CD-recordable, magneto-optical drives—their days are numbered. How about a drive that's lightning fast, records 4.7GB of data on a single disc, and plays crystal-clear, full-screen video without a glitch? The big thing this Christmas—and we mean *big*—will be a new drive standard called digital video disc (DVD).

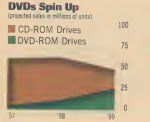
First out will be DVD-ROM drives for your television, stereo, and PC, with DVD-recordable drives following close behind. Meanwhile, prices for these DVD devices are expected to debut at around $500 and fall faster than prices for CD-ROM players. Sound too good to be true? It might be.

DVD doesn't have any precursors—except maybe the $500 rewritable PD/CD-ROM drive from Panasonic. It reads discs as fast as a quad-speed CD-ROM drive and backs up most hard drives on a single 650MB optical disc. However, the reception PD/CD drives have gotten has been lukewarm at best.

To accommodate DVD's massive data-handling requirements, you need some major hardware components on your PC. Camcorders, still cameras, audio recorders, and satellite TV are all going digital, so eventually you won't need sound cards, video-capture cards, or TV-signal converters to watch, say, home videos of the kids on your PC. But you will need MPEG-2 video and Dolby AC3 audio decompression, and neither is scheduled to become part of the Pentium's instruction set until sometime next year. Meanwhile, you can buy a $500 add-in board to do the trick.

Most system makers and software companies are preparing for the DVD invasion. While there will be some digital dilemmas when the first DVD-ROM drives hit the street at the end of this year, the technology

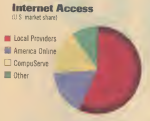
DVDs Spin Up
(projected sales in millions of units)



SOURCE: INFOTECH

Bigger Is Better: DVD-ROM drive sales will slowly increase until 1998. After that, sales should ramp up, possibly making rewritable DVD drives the storage medium of choice.

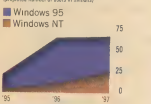
Internet Access
(U.S. market share)



SOURCE: COMPUTER INTELLIGENCE

Surfing Supplies: Small, local Internet providers are delivering the most Net access, but big guns like AT&T are expected to change that soon.

Operating-System Wars
(projected number of users in millions)



SOURCE: DATAQUEST

Battleground: By 1997 DOS and Windows 3.1 will be phased out. Meanwhile, NT is inching toward Windows 95 for the top operating-system spot.

UPDATES Best Bets and Bargains

BUDGET PORTABLES
Starting at just $2,899, CTX International's new 90MHz notebook, the EzBook 655, packs Pentium power at a hard-to-beat price. Contact CTX at (800) 888-9052.
Reader Service No. 601

SEE MORE GREEN
ViewSonic's new 15-inch color monitor, the Optiquest V655, gives you all the usual eye-opening components for a mere $349. Contact ViewSonic at (800) 888-8583.
Reader Service No. 602

BOOK LOVERS' BOON
Track literary gems converted to electronic Internet text with *The Booklover's Guide to the Internet* ($12.95). Contact Fawcett Columbine at (800) 793-2665.
Reader Service No. 603

CD-ROM NETWORKING
Meridian Data's CD NetLink Miniservers, starting at $895, let you easily plug 7 to 14 CD-ROM drives into your NetWare network. Contact Meridian Data at (800) 767-2537.
Reader Service No. 604

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETER ALAN GOULO

Java Viruses

seems headed in the right direction. In fact, DVD could make audio and video common data types on your PC.

DVD discs start at 4.7GB—the storage equivalent of seven or eight CD-ROM discs. That's enough to hold a 135-minute movie, with room left over for a huge surround-sound audio track. And DVD drives transfer data a little faster than eight-speed CD-ROM drives, making for smoother video quality. DVD drives should be completely backward-compatible, meaning that current CD-ROM titles will run on them. And because a regular DVD disc can hold so much data, the days of multidisc games and databases are over.

As the standard begins to take hold, you'll see things like encyclopedias packed with high-quality video clips, or all nine of Beethoven's symphonies on a single DVD disc. And DVD gives game makers 17GB of capacity that will grow to 40GB in about a year. By then, DVD-recordable drives and more affordable 2.6GB discs will make DVD the preferred PC storage medium.

Despite the promise of DVD, CD-ROM players won't disappear overnight. DVD software will trail far behind drive shipments, so you'll be using your CD-ROM drive for quite some time. You might even buy a faster CD-ROM player in the next few months—but consider it your last. We're guessing it'll be at least a year for DVD to take hold. But once it does, the way you work with your PC will never be the same. **MH**

Contributors to Pulse: MIKE HOGAN, RICH SCHWERIN.
Edited by JACK LYON.

The Web Comes Alive

Multimedia-rich Web pages are great to look at, but they take **forever to load.** Narrative Communications' **Enliven** gets around this problem by compressing and **streaming** audio, video, and animation to any Web browser. At 28.8Kbps, a 2.5MB Macromedia Shockwave file takes only **40 seconds** to start—compared with the 8 minutes it takes without Enliven. **RS**

Enliven / Narrative Communications / (617) 290-5300 / price not available / *Reader Service No. 605*

28.8Kbps Modems

Only a year ago, 28.8Kbps modems cost around $300. Now? Almost pocket change. Here are the least expensive internal 28.8Kbps modems we could find as of June 1.

Product	Price
Boca Online Express *Insight Direct (800) 377-3000*	$99
NewCom 28.8ifx *PC Mall (800) 555-6255*	$110
Supra Simple Internet *NECX Direct (800) 808-3373*	$125
MaxTech 28.8 KBPS *DataComm Warehouse (800) 328-2261*	$150
U.S. Robotics Sportster 288 *Misco PowerUp (800) 876-4726*	$175

Reader Service Numbers: Insight Direct, *606;* PC Mall, *607;* NECX Direct, *608;* DataComm Warehouse, *609;* Misco PowerUp, *610.*

RADAR: Black Widow Viruses, Waiting for 1-2-3

What's on the scope? If a blip is near or moving toward the middle of the radar screen, check it out. If it's moving off the screen, steer clear for now.

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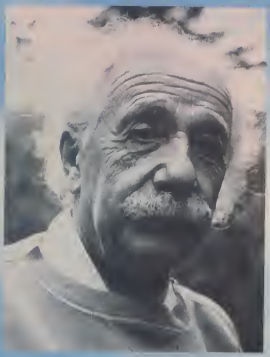

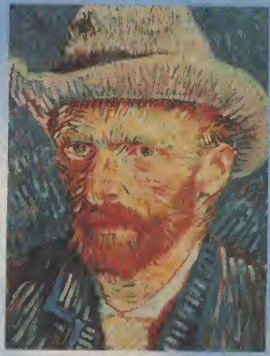

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The A-List

Editors' Top Picks by Wendy Taylor

		Top Pick	The Buzz	The Stats*	More Info
Systems	High Performance Pentium	Gateway P5-200CDR	**Windows at 200MHz? Once you've been there, there's no turning back. And did we mention the CD-R drive is included?**	$3,899, 200MHz Pentium, 16MB RAM, 2.5GB, 8X CD-ROM.	July 1996, page 57 (800) 846-2000 Reader Service No. 618
	High-Performance Pentium Pro	Micron Pro 200 Magnum Plus	**Power that will rock you back on your heels. Feed it native 32-bit apps only.**	$4,897, 200MHz Pentium Pro, 32MB RAM, 2GB hard drive.	June 1996, page 70 (800) 362-7309 Reader Service No. 619
	Desktop Workhorse	Micron Electronics P166 Millennia	**The sweet spot for systems: the performance you crave and all the extras, too.**	$3,098, 166MHz Pentium, 16MB RAM, 1.6GB, 8X CD-ROM.	July 1996, page 161 (800) 362-7309 Reader Service No. 620
	Low-Cost Desktop PC	Dell Dimension P100t	**Priced so low even your cheapest relatives will bite.**	$1,879, 100MHz Pentium, 16MB RAM, 1GB, 4X CD-ROM.	Jan. 1996, page 132 (800) 247-5502 Reader Service No. 621
	SOHO System	Compaq Presario 9240	**Command central for any home office—manages your fax, voice, and e-mail messages while you get down to work.**	$3,087, 133MHz Pentium, 16MB RAM, 1.2GB hard drive.	May 1996, page 83 (800) 345-1518 Reader Service No. 622
	High-Performance Web Server	Hewlett-Packard Vectra XU 6/200	**The hottest NT Web box you can buy—with room for a second processor and acres of storage.**	$6,254, 200MHz Pentium Pro, 32MB RAM, 2GB hard drive.	June 1996, page 70 (800) 322-4772
	Pricewise Direct System	HiQ Computer Systems C166+ PowerStation	**This 133MHz 6x86 runs faster than many 166MHz Pentiums. Are you feeling the heat yet, Intel?**	$2,295, 133MHz 6x86, 16MB RAM, 2.1GB hard drive.	June 1996, page 66 (800) 827-5836 Reader Service No. 623
Network Servers	[illegible]	Compaq ProSignia 300 5/90 Model 2100	**Who needs an information systems department? This server is so well designed, it runs itself.**	$3,749, 90MHz Pentium, 32MB RAM, 2GB hard drive.	Nov. 1995, page 138 (800) 345-1518 Reader Service No. 624
	[illegible]	Digital Prioris LX 590	**Our labs call it the fastest server to hit our test bench; we call it a great deal.**	$2,731, 90MHz Pentium, 32MB RAM, 4X CD-ROM drive.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 344-4825 Reader Service No. 625
	[illegible]	Compaq ProLiant 1500	**A reliable anchor for 15 or more network nodes.**	$12,589, 166MHz Pentium, 128MB RAM, two 2.1GB SCSI-2 drives.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 345-1518 Reader Service No. 626
	[illegible]	Hewlett-Packard NetServer 5/133 LS2	**Two onboard processors and loaded with technical wizardry.**	$25,095, two 133MHz Pentium CPUs, 768MB, five 2.1GB SCSI drives.	March 1996, page 158 (800) 533-1333, ext. 1695
Portables	Portable Desktop Replacement	Toshiba Tecra 720CDT	**The follow-you-around office: 133MHz Pentium, removable six-speed CD-ROM drive, and 12.1-inch hi-res display.**	$6,299, 133MHz Pentium, 16MB RAM, 1.13GB hard drive.	June 1996, page 69 (800) 533-1333, ext. 1695 Reader Service No. 627
	Lightweight Traveling Notebook	IBM ThinkPad 560	**Thin is in. Get a glorious 12.1-inch display in a box so slim you'll take it everywhere.**	Starting at $2,699, 120MHz Pentium, 8MB RAM, 810MB hard drive.	July 1996, page 52 (800) 426-7255 Reader Service No. 628
	Low-Cost Color Portable	Canon Innova Book 360CD	**A multimedia notebook for under three grand? We'll take it.**	$2,599, 133MHz AMD 5x86, 8MB RAM, 4X CD-ROM drive.	This issue, page 146 (800) 423-2366 Reader Service No. 629
	Multimedia Notebook	Compaq Armada 4100	**Strip it down and it's an ultraportable note taker; add the expansion base and it's a multimedia powerhouse.**	$4,999, 120MHz Pentium, 16MB RAM, 1.08GB hard drive.	This issue, page 69 (800) 345-1518 Reader Service No. 630
	State-of-the-art Portable	IBM ThinkPad 760CD	**If James Bond carried a portable, this would be it. It packs more features than your average desktop PC.**	$6,889, 120MHz Pentium, removable 4X CD-ROM drive.	March 1996, page 183 (800) 426-7255 Reader Service No. 631

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE

The A-List *Continued on page 46*

		Top Pick	The Buzz	The Stats*	More Info
Desktop Printers	Desktop Laser Printer	Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5MP	**You can buy a faster laser, but not a better one. Plus, who needs cables? Beam jobs to the IR port instead.**	$1,099, 6 ppm, 600 dpi, PCL 5 (PostScript optional), infrared port.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 752-0900
	Low-Cost Color Printer	Canon BJC-4100	**Low-maintenance, high-quality color—and sanely priced.**	$299, 720-by-360-dpi black, 360-dpi color.	Feb. 1996, page 140 (800) 848-4123 Reader Service No. 632
	Desktop Color Printer	Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 855CSE	**Near–laser-quality color output for a tenth of the price.**	$499, 600 dpi, 7-ppm black, 3-ppm color.	Feb. 1996, page 140 (800) 533-1333, ext. 1615
	Portable Printer	Citizen PN60	**Slip it in your briefcase, then wow clients when you produce color pages on the spot.**	$299, 360-dpi thermal transfer, 1.5 pounds.	Feb. 1995, page 64 (310) 453-0614 Reader Service No. 633
Network Printer		Hewlett-Packard LaserJet 5Si MX	**Even 50-page print jobs fly out faster than you can trot down the hall to claim them.**	$4,199, 24 ppm, 600 dpi, PCL 5e, PostScript Level 2.	Jan. 1996, page 89 (800) 533-1333, ext. 1615
		Lexmark Optra C	**Lightning-fast color laser output for just 17 cents per page.**	$6,150, 12-ppm black, 3-ppm color.	April 1996, page 115 (800) 891-0399 Reader Service No. 634
		Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 1600CM	**Churns out brilliant color pages faster than you can produce them.**	$1,999, 9-ppm black, 4-ppm color.	Nov. 1995, page 172 (800) 533-1333, ext. 1615
Video	High-Resolution 20- or 21-Inch Monitor	Sony Multiscan 20sfII	**Think big. This 20-inch bargain gives you enough room to view six windows at a time.**	$1,799, 20-inch, 1,280 by 1,024 pixels at 75Hz, Plug and Play.	June 1996, page 156 (800) 352-7669, ext. 119 Reader Service No. 635
	High-Resolution 17-Inch Monitor	Samsung SyncMaster 17 GLsi	**Why settle? See what you've been missing in Windows with this 17-inch steal.**	$919, 1,280 by 1,024 pixels at 80Hz.	This issue, page 155 (800) 933-4110 Reader Service No. 636
	High-Resolution Graphics Accelerator	Matrox MGA Millennium	**Ultrafast Windows RAM and 3-D acceleration make this the graphics card to covet.**	$399, 4MB WRAM, 1,280 by 1,024 pixels at 76Hz, PCI interface.	April 1996, page 149 (800) 583-4353 Reader Service No. 637
Storage	Removable Storage	Iomega Jaz Drive	**The easiest, most affordable way to put a gigabyte in your pocket. If you see a Jaz drive, buy it.**	$499 (internal), $599 (external), SCSI-2 and EIDE.	April 1996, page 53 (800) 697-8833 Reader Service No. 638
	CD-ROM Drive	NEC MultiSpin 4Xc	**The best bargain around: Queue up seven discs in this quad-speed jukebox for the price of a single-disc drive.**	$349, SCSI interface, seven-disc changer.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 632-4636 Reader Service No. 639
	CD-Recordable Drive	Smart and Friendly CD-R 1002	**Make copies of your multimedia presentations, put your hard drive on a disc, or mix your own audio CDs.**	$799 (internal), $899 (external).	July 1996, page 300 (800) 542-8838 Reader Service No. 640
	Network Storage	Mega Drive Systems MR5 RAID Disk Array	**Bulletproof backup and storage for your network data.**	$9,500, 5GB RAID array.	Nov. 1995, page 186 (800) 404-6342 Reader Service No. 641
Peripherals	Personal Scanner	Visioneer PaperPort Vx	**The quickest way to tame your paper in-box. It moves paper off your desk and onto your hard drive in seconds.**	$299, 400 dpi, document-management software.	Jan. 1996, page 92 (800) 787-7007, ext. 587 Reader Service No. 642
	Multimedia Sound Card	Creative Labs Sound Blaster AWE32 PnP	**The ultimate for business multimedia. Makes Doom more fun, too.**	$250, 32-voice polyphony, 16-bit DSP.	Jan. 1996, page 173 (800) 998-5227, ext. 111 Reader Service No. 643
	High-speed Fax Modem	U.S. Robotics Courier I-Modem	**A bridge to the future—you get a 28.8Kbps analog and ISDN modem in one.**	$500, ISDN and V.34 (28.8Kbps).	June 1996, page 118 (800) 877-2677 Reader Service No. 644

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The A-List

Continued on page 48

		Top Pick	The Buzz	The Stats*	More Info
Desktop Applications	Software Suite	Microsoft Office for Windows 95	If you buy only one software title, this should be it. For Web publishing, download the new Internet Assistants.	$499 (Standard Edition), 28MB to 89MB hard disk space.	Sept. 1995, page 83 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 645
	Word Processor	Microsoft Word for Windows 95	The de facto standard for businesses everywhere. For smart version control, check out Lotus's Word Pro.	$339, Windows 95 or Windows NT 3.51, 8MB RAM.	May 1996, page 149 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 646
	Spreadsheet	Microsoft Excel for Windows 95	It's a one-horse race, folks, and guess who's winning?	$339, Windows 95 or Windows NT 3.51, 8MB RAM.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 647
	Database	Microsoft Access for Windows 95	Finally! You don't have to be a power nerd to put this database to work. Plus, check out the new Internet Assistants.	$339, Windows 95 or Windows NT 3.51, 12MB RAM.	Jan. 1996, page 162 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 648
Graphics Applications	Presentation Graphics	Microsoft PowerPoint for Windows 95	Build a winning sales presentation on your lunch hour—then publish and deliver it on the Web.	$339, Windows 95 or Windows NT, 14MB to 35MB hard disk space.	March 1996, page 183 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 649
	Desktop Publishing	Microsoft Publisher for Windows 95	The ultimate vanity press: Create terrific-looking pages without even trying.	$80, 386 CPU, 8MB RAM, 6MB hard disk space.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 650
	Page Layout	QuarkXPress 3.31 for Windows	Produces pages as slick as the ones in your hands. PageMaker shops should check out PageMaker for Windows 95.	$570, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM, 12MB to 15MB hard disk space.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 788-7835 Reader Service No. 651
	Illustration	CorelDraw 6	The all-in-one graphics toolkit for Windows 95: Draw, edit, and design your own masterpieces.	$525, Windows 95, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM.	April 1996, page 101 (800) 772-6735 Reader Service No. 652
	Photo Editing	Adobe Photoshop 3.0 for Windows	A digital darkroom for your PC. For a performance boost, check out the new Windows 95/NT upgrade.	$549, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM, 20MB hard disk space.	April 1996, page 101 (800) 833-6687, ext. 06879 Reader Service No. 653
Finance	Personal Finance Manager	Intuit Quicken Deluxe 5 for Windows	Never visit a bank again—this is branch-office checking from your hard drive.	$60, 386 CPU, 4MB RAM, 7MB hard disk space.	Feb. 1996, page 188 (800) 624-8742 Reader Service No. 654
	Business Accounting	Intuit QuickBooks Pro 4.0	Cheaper than your average accountant, and a lot easier to understand.	$189, 486 CPU, 4MB RAM, 12MB hard disk space.	July 1996, page 169 (800) 624-8742 Reader Service No. 655
	Online Stock Manager	E-Trade Group E-Trade	Better than a broker: Place trades and research stocks 24 hours a day from your PC.	$14.95 per trade for up to 5,000 shares.	This issue, page 93 (800) 786-2575 Reader Service No. 656
Tools and Utilities	OCR Software	Caere OmniPage Pro 7.0	OCR the easy way: Scan in documents and turn them into editable text in just seconds.	$499, Windows 95, 8MB RAM, 15MB free hard disk space.	July 1996, page 78 (800) 736-5735, ext. 40 Reader Service No. 657
	Antivirus Software	Symantec Norton AntiVirus for Windows 95	Fast and painless virus-hunting for Windows 95. Just in: a scanner for rogue Java applets.	$79, Windows 95, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM.	Oct. 1995, page 116 (800) 441-7234 Reader Service No. 658
	Fax-Communications Software	Symantec Delrina CommSuite 95	One launchpad for all your online fixes. Sends e-mail and faxes, too.	$99, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM, 30MB free hard disk space.	Nov. 1995, page 83 (800) 813-8152 Reader Service No. 659
	System Utility	Symantec Norton Utilities for Windows 95	Resuscitates dead files and diagnoses hardware problems before they happen. Everyone should have a copy.	$119, Windows 95 or Windows 3.1, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM.	Dec. 1995, page 158 (800) 441-7234 Reader Service No. 660
	Compression Utility	Nico Mak WinZip 6.1	Take back your hard drive and squeeze file transfers down to size with this Windows compression utility.	$29, Windows 95 or Windows 3.1, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM.	May 1996, page 134 (800) 242-4775 Reader Service No. 661

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T6045 line impact matrix printer **under $4,500!**

PC MAGAZINE EDITORS' CHOICE™
November 7, 1995
Mannesmann Tally T6045

The T6045 is an entry level line impact matrix printer that's short in cost-but not in performance. From general data processing to bar codes & other industrial graphics, the T6045 can print up to 450 lines per minute, and can handle a 80,000 pages a month with ease.

Versatility is the T6045's middle name. It comes equipped with ***three*** industrial graphics languages standard plus POSTNET, giving you a variety of options for graphics handling.

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Internet A-List

	Top Pick	The Buzz	The Stats*	More Info
Web Browsers and Add-ins				
Web Browser	Netscape Navigator 3.0	**Still the best way to explore the Web. Download the latest version via www.pccomputing.com.**	$49, Windows 95 or Windows NT, 4MB RAM, Internet access.	This issue, page 66 (800) 638-7483 Reader Service No. 662
Browser Plug-in	Progressive Networks RealAudio Player 2.0	**What's the Web sound like? Find out with this free add-in.**	Free, Windows 95 or Windows NT 3.51, 8MB RAM.	May 1996, page 59 (800) 326-2128 Reader Service No. 663
Internet Access Control	InterGo Communications InterGo	**Why let the Feds censor the Net? Filter out the riffraff yourself, and find the best resources with this smart browser.**	$50, Windows 95 or Windows 3.1, 4MB RAM.	July 1996, page 250 (214) 424-7882 Reader Service No. 664
Newsgroup Reader	Forté Free Agent	**Join and read newsgroups offline so you don't spend a fortune on connection costs.**	Free, Windows 95 or Windows 3.1, Internet access.	This issue, page 318 (619) 431-6400 Reader Service No. 665
Application Add-in	Microsoft PowerPoint Viewer	**Turns PowerPoint presentations into Java-like applets for publishing on the Web—for free. No programming needed.**	Free to registered users of Microsoft's Office.	July 1996, page 115 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No 666
Secure Internet E-mail	Qualcomm Eudora Pro 3.0	**Are you crazy? Let just anyone read your e-mail? Keep it private with Eudora's encryption.**	$59, Internet access.	Nov. 1995, page 200 (800) 238-3672 Reader Service No. 667
Internet Search				
[illegible]	Digital Alta Vista	**The fastest, smartest way to find what you need on the Net. Check it out at www.pccomputing.com.**	Free, Internet access.	May 1996, page 68 (800) 336-7890 Reader Service No. 668
[illegible]	Quarterdeck WebCompass Personal Edition	**Find what you're looking for faster; enter a query and WebCompass finds it, organizes it, and stores it for you.**	Free, Windows 95 or Windows 3.1, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM.	March 1996, page 106 (800) 683-6696 Reader Service No. 669
Web Communications				
Web Phone	Quarterdeck WebTalk	**Everything you need to make free phone calls on the Web—try it while it's still legal.**	$50, Windows 95, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM, Internet access.	May 1996, page 66 (800) 683-6696 Reader Service No. 670
Web Video-conferencing	White Pine Enhanced CU-SeeMe	**For those times when e-mail is too impersonal: It turns your PC into a smart videophone.**	$69, Internet access, video camera required.	This issue, page 96 (800) 241-7463 Reader Service No. 671
News Service	PointCast Network 1.0	**Custom news feeds and stock quotes delivered right to your desktop. Serves up sports scores and horoscopes, too.**	Free, Internet access.	July 1996, page 85 (800) 586-4733 Reader Service No. 672
Net Services				
Online Service	America Online	**The most civilized of the big national online services. And it's got the most interesting content.**	$9.95 per month for 5 hours, $2.95 for each additional hour.	January 1996, page 179 (800) 827-6364 Reader Service No 673
Internet Service Provider	NetCom On-Line	**You can find cheaper rates from local ISPs, but for fast, reliable service anywhere, check out NetCom.**	$19.95 per month.	January 1996, page 179 (800) 638-2661 Reader Service No. 674
Web Development Tools				
Web Publisher	Microsoft FrontPage 1.1	**The most usable, graphical Web page publisher you can buy. Watch for Adobe's PageMill for Windows this fall.**	$149, Windows 95, 486 CPU, 8MB RAM.	This issue, page 112 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 675
HTML Editor	Anawave HotDog Professional 2.0	**The Web publisher to have when only brute-force HTML editing will do. Web publishing newbies need not apply.**	$80, Windows 95 or Windows 3.1, 4MB RAM.	This issue, page 131 (800) 771-6030 Reader Service No. 676
Web Server Software	Microsoft Internet Information Server	**The best way to put your NT box on the Web—and it's free with NT Server.**	Free with $999 NT Server, 386 CPU, 16MB RAM	This issue, page 131 (800) 426-9400 Reader Service No. 677
Web Animation Software	Macromedia Shockwave for Windows 95	**The premier multimedia authoring tool for CD-ROMs and the Web. Converts existing Director files to Web code, too.**	Free with $850 Macromedia Director 5.	This issue, page 131 (800) 457-1774 Reader Service No. 678

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April 1991
Gateway starts shipping PCs in cow-spotted boxes. Cow-spot fever spreads across the nation.

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Gateway 2000 has been taking the guesswork out of buying PCs ever since our humble beginning back in 1985. We give you all the information you need to find the right system. And great prices, quality products and outstanding service and support are the norm rather than the exception. We've also made your PC buying experience more fun by embracing our origins — Gateway was started by a couple farm boys in a barn on a Midwestern cattle ranch. In honor of these roots, nearly 5,000 GATEWAY™ employees painted cow spots on our company headquarters. No polished silver or mirrored glass here. That's not Gateway's style. After all, we *were* born in a barn.

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notebooks deliver all the
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) RAM standard — for
2100 notebooks are
new trails in portable

OM drives standard on
— CD-recordable
k the fastest Pentium
ordable drive and 32MB

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to give you
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ateway today!

P5-200XL

ntel 200MHz Pentium Processor
2MB Synchronous DRAM
12K Pipelined Burst Cache
.5GB 11ms EIDE Hard Drive
Matrox® 2MB WRAM PCI Graphics
D-Recordable w/ SCSI Controller
X CD-ROM Drive/3.5" Diskette Drive
6-Bit Gateway Sound Card
ltec ACS-400 ACS 250 Speakers
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ivitron17 .26dp Monitor (15.9" viewable)
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04+ Keyboard & MS Mouse 2.0
IS Windows 95
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P5-166

ntel 166MHz Pentium Processor
2MB Synchronous DRAM
56K Pipelined Burst Cache
.5GB 11ms EIDE Hard Drive
MB MDRAM, 128-Bit PCI Graphics
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Multimedia Systems

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- Intel® 120MHz Pentium® Processor
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- 850MB 10ms EIDE Hard Drive
- 1MB DRAM, 64-Bit PCI Graphics
- 8X CD-ROM Drive/3.5" Diskette Drive
- 16-Bit GATEWAY™ Sound Card
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- 104+ Keyboard & MS Mouse 2.0
- Microsoft® Windows® 95
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P5-166 FAMILY PC

- Intel 166MHz Pentium Processor
- 16MB EDO DRAM
- 256K Pipelined Burst Cache
- 2.5GB 11ms EIDE Hard Drive
- 2MB DRAM, 64-Bit PCI Graphics
- 8X CD-ROM Drive/3.5" Diskette Drive
- 16-Bit Gateway Sound Card
- Altec Lansing ACS-40 Speakers
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P5-200XL

- Intel 200MHz Pentium Processor
- **32MB Synchronous DRAM**
- 512K Pipelined Burst Cache
- 2.5GB 11ms EIDE Hard Drive
- Matrox® 2MB WRAM PCI Graphics
- **CD-Recordable w/ SCSI Controller**
- 8X CD-ROM Drive/3.5" Diskette Drive
- 16-Bit Gateway Sound Card
- Altec ACS-400 ACS 250 Speakers
- TelePath 28.8 Fax/Modem
- Vivitron17 .26dp Monitor (15.9" viewable)
- 12-Bay Tower Case
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- All systems match corresponding multimedia system configurations listed, excluding speakers, with Destination Big Screen PC upgrade (see details on next page) replacing standard corresponding components and software.

- *D5-120* $3499
- *D5-166* $3999
- *D5-200* $5099

Professional Systems

P5-100

- Intel 100MHz Pentium Processor
- 16MB EDO DRAM
- 850MB 10ms EIDE Hard Drive
- 1MB DRAM, 64-Bit PCI Graphics
- 8X CD-ROM/3.5" Diskette Drives
- Vivitron15 .26dp Monitor (13.9" viewable)
- 7-Bay Mini Tower Case
- 104+ Keyboard & MS Mouse 2.0
- MS Windows 95
- MS Office 95, Professional Edition*

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P5-133

- Intel 133MHz Pentium Processor
- 16MB EDO DRAM
- 256K Pipelined Burst Cache
- 1.6GB 9ms EIDE Hard Drive
- 2MB MDRAM, 128-Bit PCI Graphics
- 8X CD-ROM/3.5" Diskette Drives
- Vivitron15 .26dp Monitor (13.9" viewable)
- 7-Bay Mini Tower Case
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- MS Windows 95
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P5-166

- Intel 166MHz Pentium Processor
- **32MB Synchronous DRAM**
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- 2MB MDRAM, 128-Bit PCI Graphics
- 8X CD-ROM/3.5" Diskette Drives
- Vivitron17 .26dp Monitor (15.9" viewable)
- 12-Bay Tower Case
- 104+ Keyboard & MS Mouse 2.0
- MS Windows 95
- MS Office 95, Professional Edition*

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G6-180

- Intel 180MHz Pentium Pro Process
- 16MB EDO DRAM
- 2.5GB 11ms EIDE Hard Drive
- 2MB MDRAM, 128-Bit Graphics
- 8X CD-ROM/3.5" Diskette Drives
- Vivitron15 .26dp Monitor (13.9" viewable)
- 12-Bay Tower Case
- 104+ Keyboard & MS Mouse 2.0
- MS Windows NT® Workstation 3.5 or MS Windows 95
- MS Office 95, Professional Edition*

$2499 Business Lease† $92/m

Professional Systems

G6-200

- Intel 200MHz Pentium Pro Processor
- 32MB EDO DRAM
- 2GB 9ms Fast SCSI Hard Drive
- Matrox 4MB WRAM PCI Graphics
- 4X SCSI CD-ROM Drive
- 3.5" Diskette Drive
- Vivitron17 .26dp Monitor (15.9" viewable)
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- MS Windows NT Workstation 3.51 or MS Windows 95
- MS Office 95, Professional Edition*

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The D5-200 PC has not been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. This device is not, and may not be, offered for sale or lease, or sold or leased until the approval of the FCC has been obtained.

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Option

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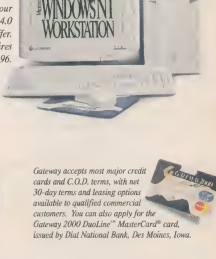

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Web Coma

You all know that zoned-out comatose daze you sometimes feel after pigging out at Thanksgiving . . . or fighting to stay awake during some endless HR department sensitivity sermon. Or slogging through an incomprehensible tax form or a Jackie Collins novel. Or enduring a marathon PBS drawing-room potboiler so stupefyingly dull you actually look forward to the pledge breaks. OK, they're all definitely trance inducers, but the truth is that there's simply no coma like Web coma. And it comes in five main varieties.

Paul Somerson

The **Web** is the ultimate manifestation of **Attention Deficit Disorder.** Click. Zoom. Gone.

Click-Candy The Web is the ultimate manifestation of Attention Deficit Disorder, with some "Let's Make a Deal" thrown in. Hypertext beckons seductively from every corner of your screen. What's behind link number two? Go there *now!* No time to read the current page. Click. Gone.

Content? Who cares? It doesn't matter whether each successive page is bad or good. If it's bad you just warp right out of there. If it's good you follow the thread in any direction, backtrack, then try another one. It's endless, like some vast Zen circle thing.

Nothing holds your attention for more than two seconds, with cooler stuff just a click away. Every so often you break the spell by adding a page to your already unmanageable bookmark list. But this sprawling list is typically so huge and out of control that you'll never visit it again. Doesn't matter. You're hopelessly swept down the clickstream. New links lure you on. You slip easily into Web Coma Number One.

Search Me Then there's Work Web Coma Number Two. You need to do some serious research. So you fire up your favorite search engine. It spits out 90,000 hits. You fiddle with the search parameters. Which either pares the hit list down to 85,000 or suddenly says there are no matches.

You start over and this time actually begin sampling the search results, displayed in what the engine claims are order of relevance, cooked up by some quirky brute-force algorithm hooked to a synonym dictionary nearly as useless as the thesaurus in Microsoft Word.

After countless blind alleys, you switch to another search engine. This one produces even more so-called hits, and its search limiter uses an entirely different set of rules and syntax but produces similarly frustrating results. And on you slog, coma growing deeper, fruitlessly trying search engine after search engine, until the cleaning lady shuffles in and out and the automatic timer turns the building's lights off.

Interglut Those twin torpors don't hold a candle to the third type of coma generated by frenzied marketers desperate to catch the Web wave. Suddenly every computer product has to scream the magic Net words or it doesn't get shelf space.

Things are so loony these days that even hardware is falling under this spell. Tripp Lite hails its terrific Touch Master UPS/power switch as "Internet-ready." A UPS! OK, it has a tiny phone-line surge suppressor in the back, but are your eyes glazing over yet?

Vote No The fourth class of coma comes from listening while rabid congressional technophobes worse than the Unabomber soporifically grandstand to the rubes back home, clogging the Net with overregulation, unenforceable laws, and miles of ugly red tape. Throw the bums out.

Hates Gates Still, the worst Web coma evoker is clearly Oracle poohbah Larry Ellison. Spitting bile over Bill Gates's billions, Larry rants ceaselessly about how the $500 NC (network computer) will kill the PC.

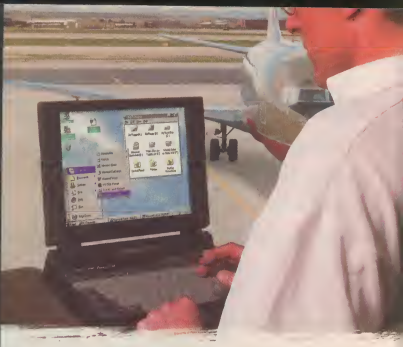
What's Ellison's conception of how you'll work in the future? You'll plug the diskless NC into your TV set. Your data will reside on some far-off Oracle server. And you'll hum busily away with Java apps flashing over the Internet. Right.

Ever try reading text off a fuzzy TV screen? Can you imagine doing word processing on that? Or entrusting your data solely to a distant server? Or facing a torrent of Web-clog error messages every time you do anything?

That's not stupefying. That's just plain stupid.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID PERRY

LEAVING YOUR DESKTOP DOESN'T MEAN BEING LEFT BEHIND.



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Circle 113 on reader service card.

Web Wake-up Call

Web Review, an outstanding little Web-zine, called it quits saying it couldn't sell enough advertising to make the site work. In fact, the publisher went on to say Web advertising just doesn't pay off and then asked, "Does anyone want to pay for a subscription?" Meanwhile, cnet ads are sold out for the year—"Microsoft just bought a million banners!" The difference is that cnet actually has people selling ads while Web Review, as far as I could tell, was hoping people would beg to advertise on its site.

Like many sites, Web Review relied on ad reps—freelance salespeople who have a tendency to cherry-pick among their clients. They jump on hot sites because they're easy sells.

Sites worth their salt will eventually be advertising oriented, with few exceptions. But Web Review's failure doesn't help. The picture is made worse by ad agencies that can't come to grips with the technology and always seem to be on the lagging edge of the growth curve.

Today's Web situation reminds me of the original *Star Trek* series, which aired only 78 episodes and was dumped because the advertisers were looking at raw ratings, an artifact of the era. Years later, the big agencies realized that *Star Trek* had fantastic demographics for certain products and would have been a tremendous opportunity. Too bad the show was canceled years earlier.

Killer Demographics Many insiders realize that the demographics for today's typical Web user are frighteningly attractive. But just like the *Star Trek* fumble, few advertising agencies have spotted the Web as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity—they see it as an experiment.

Considered to be definitive research on who uses the Internet, a Georgia Institute of Technology study last December showed an audience that simply won't last forever. It's top-drawer, with plenty of education and tons of money to spend. By the time advertisers wake up to this opportunity the Web will be just another mass-market medium. I'm not saying that advertising on the Web won't be good business in 2010—it's just that in today's market it's like shooting fish in a barrel. It's hard to go wrong.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID PEARY

John C. Dvorak

The **Web audience** isn't going to get any better than it is right now for **targeted advertising.**

Look at the statistical profile of a person browsing the Web:

- Average household income: $69,000
- Average age, women: 35.2
- Average age, men: 35.2
- About 70 percent male
- About 76 percent from the U.S. (10 percent from California)
- 52 percent Windows users
- 26 percent Macintosh users
- 77 percent browse at least once a day
- Primary Web activity: 82 percent browsing, 57 percent entertainment, 51 percent work (with obvious multiple selections)

This group is not going to get any better than it is right now for certain types of targeted advertising. Over time you can expect Web users to reflect the TV-viewing population.

Specialty Sites Web users could be particularly hot compared with magazine readers. The Web user is obviously computer literate and trendy, and probably has a higher income. Of course, highly targeted audiences like stamp collectors and car enthusiasts can be developed with specialty Web sites.

The additional psychographic (similar to demographic but referring to individual taste) realities of Web users should make marketing mavens drool. Instead we still hear, "Oh, it must be a fad." I'll tell you something. When I watch the NBA play-offs and a huge banner on the scoring table has a URL plastered on it for the whole world to see, the fad concept is voided once and for all.

Unless they just want to promote a brand name, Web advertisers can bring potential customers over to another site where they control interactions with the user. Again, the marketeers should be drooling but instead they're caught short, suddenly finding they don't have the skills to set up a rewarding site. Worse, infinite scam-meisters and overnight Web experts are doing this work with mediocre results. Reminds me of a company advertising "Java programming experts since 1989"!

In a few years when things stabilize, people will look back on this amazing period and, like after the *Star Trek* series, lament, "Man, did we miss an opportunity back then." So what else is new?

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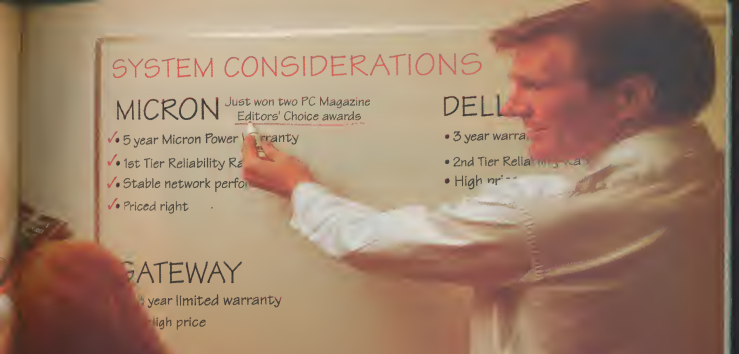

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Circle 104 on reader service card.

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Designed for Microsoft Windows 95

The easiest and most reliable way to protect your data comes from the company that everyone trusts. Hewlett-Packard, the world leader in tape backup. The affordable HP Colorado T1000 stores up to 800 MB* using new TRAVAN™ technology. It includes true Windows® 95 software. One button backup and unattended operation make it a snap.

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*Maximum capacity using 2:1 data compression.

Circle 178 on reader service card.

Internet Upstarts

It's bad form to make your first $23 million while still living in a college dorm. Or so you'd gather from the snide swipes clubby corporate types have been taking at the Internet's nouveau riche. It's not youth or luck that gets under the business establishment's skin. It's that those who make money on the Net have thumbed their noses at conventional wisdom. The Web levels the playing field like a typhoon blowing through a Tahitian village. Want to single-handedly take on a national bookseller chain—say, Barnes & Noble or B. Dalton? No prob.

Conventional wisdom: Withdraw a couple hundred million dollars from your checking account to buy and staff retail outlets all over the country. Then secure another couple hundred million in bank loans to buy inventory. Now throw up a Web page to promote the whole affair. Easy—why hadn't you thought of this before?

Unconventional wisdom: Forget strip malls; go directly to the Web. Barely 18 months old, Amazon.com Books expects to rake in a tidy $5 million from book sales this year. Not bad, considering the total Web retail pie amounts to only about $300 million. What's Amazon.com's secret? Customers don't have to hunt for a parking space. Also, they get to select from more than 1.1 million titles—roughly five times as many as you'll find at your favorite Barnes & Noble megastore. And yet, Amazon.com *has* no inventory. The company orders books directly from publishers as needed. The whole outfit is run from a single office. Operating costs are, shall we say, minimal.

The Great Leveler Simply hanging your shingle on the Web won't get you that new Ferrari, of course. Companies turning a buck on the Internet recognize that service, not just convenience, is how to get a leg up on competitors. Amazon.com's real secret is the way it leverages Web technology. Because you can't thumb through books on the Web before buying, the company had to offer services conventional bookstores can't. When you select a title, a database flashes related titles.

Wendy Taylor and Marty Jerome

CDNow expects to pull in **$6 million** this year from its Web site. Total cost to set up shop: **$2,500.**

Customers can receive a list of recommendations based on their past purchases. It's like the friendly advice you used to get from independent booksellers—before B. Dalton and Barnes & Noble gobbled them all up.

As the Great Leveler, the Web not only lets little guys take a swing at big guys, it also provides ample opportunity for giants to stumble on their own. Corporations that have invested gazillions garnering mind share and market presence in print and broadcast media often look like pip-squeaks in cyberspace. Coca-Cola relied on Madison Avenue imagemeisters for its Web design. But without the feel-good rock anthems and MTV video splices, it's just a lonely, nerdy place straining to be hip. Worse, its content is about as substantial as a diet cola.

The favorite venue at Exxon's site is—you guessed it—the oil-spill page, where you can download pictures of the Valdez disaster area. It makes you wonder how many of its hits are from former Exxon shareholders.

Swinging at Giants OK, so maybe you don't want to single-handedly take on Coke or Exxon. How about Tower Records? A two-year-old cybercompany called CDNow carries a selection of more than 165,000 audio CD titles and 30,000 videotapes, making it the best-stocked music and video store on the planet. Traffic through the site is staggering; the company rang up $2 million in business last year and expects to take in another $6 million this year. Cost to set up shop on the Web: $2,500. Brothers Jason and Matthew Olim built a 35-person company in two years with seed capital that amounted to the price of a decent mountain bike.

And as for Tower? A modest sign at the company's Web site politely informs visitors that the joint is still under construction, and to please check back later.

Great Leveler indeed. If there's anything to be learned from the Web's millionaires, it's that current marketing conventions are history. Big companies can look like hayseed stooges; startups can look like industry titans. Your greatest advantage in selling on the Web is the one-to-one rapport you can build with customers. It's another term for service. And it's how to make your cash register ring.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID PERRY

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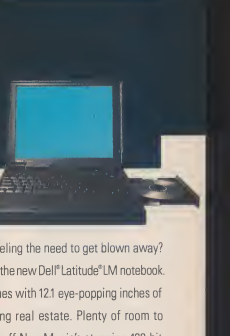

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New!

Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0, Netscape Navigator 3.0

The Browser Battle Rages On

SNEAK PREVIEW

Isn't competition great? With giants Netscape and Microsoft openly battling to build the best Web browser, the rest of us only stand to come out ahead. In the latest round of the contest, both companies have produced even better versions of the two most popular and most powerful browsers available: Netscape's Navigator 3.0 and Microsoft's Internet Explorer 3.0.

On paper, the packages are much alike. Both include extensive support for many of the same new Internet technologies, controls, and plug-ins. Take a closer look, however, and you'll see many differences. Microsoft's efforts will present a serious challenge to Netscape in the future. For now, however, the top browser is still Netscape's—barely.

Refined and Reliable

Netscape had something to prove about reliability given the numerous peccadilloes of Navigator 2.*x*. But our early tests of a prerelease version of Navigator 3.0 make it clear that the company succeeded in hammering out the bugs.

Navigator 3.0 runs fast and true. Have you had trouble with Navigator's cache? Netscape's new LiveCache system makes better use of RAM to support CD-ROM content. It also progressively caches partially loaded content, making it easier for you to pick up where you left off.

Although Navigator 3.0 represents a major upgrade, it's really an enhancement of the already great version 2.0. The big news is its support for new Web file formats and technologies, plus one or two significant add-on modules. There's built-in support for streaming audio, streaming video (both AVI and QuickTime), and 3-D VRML, plus security password certificates. We've tested them all, and they work as advertised. The VRML support is particularly impressive.

Cool Talkin'

CoolTalk is probably the single most visible addition to Navigator 3.0. It's a separate Internet telephone program, similar to VocalTec's Internet Phone, that lets you converse with another person either point-to-point or via a Netscape host-server connection. In addition to two-way audio communication, CoolTalk provides competent software and data-sharing (whiteboarding) tools, as well as a text-chat feature.

There are two significant advances in Navigator 3.0 that won't be readily apparent to most users, but they could improve the Internet experience. For example, Netscape reworked its Java and JavaScript support for greater reliability and wider compatibility. Even better, the company added an object-integration framework, called LiveConnect, that allows live objects such as Java applets, JavaScripts, and plug-ins to interact and synchronize with one another.

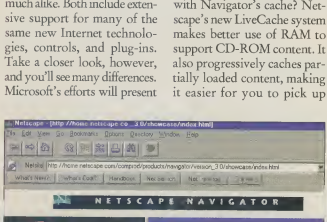
Navigator 3.0 also includes minor but welcome interface tweaks, such as completely reworked context menus in Bookmarks. There's also a nifty little icon next to the Location (URL) field that you can drag off to the desktop, a folder, or the Bookmarks window to create an instant URL shortcut icon of the current Web page. You can also (finally) customize the windowpane arrangements of the Mail and News programs.

Webmasters and Net surfers alike will appreciate improvements to Frame navigation, including support for the Back button within a frame. There are also new HTML tags like background colors for tables, and new attributes for embedding audio and video.

Serious Challenger

Meanwhile, Microsoft's Internet Explorer (or MSIE, as it's known on the Net) is also extremely ambitious. Version 3.0 might just as well have been called version 4.0. That's no accident: Netscape has a significant lead in the browser world, with 75 percent market share, and Microsoft is the only company with any real chance of competing. To get ahead, Internet Explorer 3.0 has to match or beat Navigator 3.0 feature for feature, and in many ways it does.

Internet Explorer 3.0 looks dramatically different from previous versions. Microsoft paid close attention to the interface, giving it a drag-and-drop–configurable toolbar with buttons that light up as the pointer hovers over them. These enhancements add up to an extremely usable application—and usability is where



Navigator 3.0: Still the leading browser, Netscape's Navigator 3.0 is more refined and modular than previous versions. One of the hottest new features is a built-in utility called CoolTalk that lets you place phone calls, chat, or share applications over the Internet.

A. Navigator 3.0 supports **VRML** for navigating through sites with **3-D worlds**.

B. **CoolTalk**, Navigator's Internet phone application, also supports **chat and application sharing.**

C. Version 3.0 handles **streaming audio and video.**

Guide to PC Computing's Ratings

Excellent *Market leader that offers exceptional performance* ..... ★★★★★

Good *Excels in many areas; a good buy* ..... ★★★★

Acceptable *Average for its class; a justifiable purchase* ..... ★★★

Poor *Out-of-date or substandard; offset by some positive features* ..... ★★

Unacceptable *Missing necessary features; avoid* ..... ★

Microsoft's browser skips ahead of Navigator.

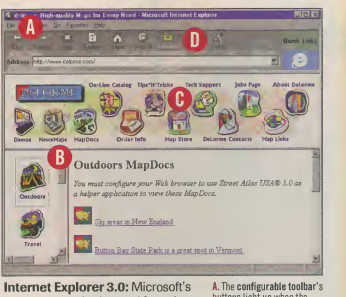
Top Performer Internet Explorer 3.0 brings a raft of features that improve performance, including better support for multiple connections and background downloads. In a simple side-by-side comparison of the prerelease versions of the two browsers, Internet Explorer 3.0 had a slight performance edge when opening uncached Web pages. Another surprising new touch is a pair of excellent bundled add-in programs: Internet News (a newsgroup reader) and Internet Mail (an e-mail utility). Both are first-rate apps that we prefer by a small margin to their Netscape counterparts.

Microsoft also added Navigator 2.0–compatible frames that support the use of the Back button within frame pages. New attributes deliver customizable frame borders, including invisible borders and floating frames, letting users improve their Web-page designs without facing performance penalties.

Early Look Many of the major features that Microsoft announced for Internet Explorer 3.0, such as support for Java and third-party plug-ins, weren't operational in the prerelease version we tested but will be included in the final release. Existing Navigator plug-ins will work with Internet Explorer 3.0, and Microsoft is working on a setup routine that will detect and automatically configure plug-ins already installed on your PC. That's a trick Netscape should copy. Internet Explorer also includes an Internet phone that lets users share applications over the Net, and a shared whiteboard conferencing tool that supports multiple-point (more than two-person) conferencing. These two features could help Microsoft leapfrog Netscape.

Another big feature of Internet Explorer 3.0, ActiveX, was in the prerelease version—but few pages on the Web have yet to take advantage of this technology. Built-in ActiveX controls let browsers view charts, timed events, automatic event-launchers, and 3-D animation. ActiveX components will work in concert with Java applications. In theory ActiveX is a boon, but we'll reserve final judgment until we've seen it fully applied.

Close Choice Until now Netscape's Navigator has dominated the browser market. With version 3.0 of Internet Explorer, however, Microsoft poses a serious threat to Netscape's lead. Microsoft may even beat Netscape at its own game: Internet Explorer 3.0 costs nothing, while Navigator, after years of being free, now costs $49 per copy. Ultimately, however, the battle of the browsers will be decided by content. If either LiveConnect or ActiveX builds serious support, people will want to use the browser that best supports the prevailing standard. But for now, the lead is still Netscape's. SCOT FINNIE



Internet Explorer 3.0: Microsoft's browser is vastly changed from the previous version. New features include support for frames (shown here with DeLorme's mapping Web site), ActiveX, shared whiteboarding tools, a Net phone, and excellent e-mail and newsgroup readers.

A. The **configurable toolbar's** buttons light up when the **mouse** pointer is over them.

B. Version 3.0 adds Navigator-compatible **frames.**

C. With **image-map** support, graphics link to pages faster.

D. Open a **Favorites** folder of frequently visited sites.

FILEBOX

Internet Explorer 3.0

★★★★★

Verdict: A worthy competitor to Netscape's Navigator—and it's free.

Pros: New, intuitive interface; displays borderless frames; support for Netscape plug-ins; speedy performance.

Cons: Can ActiveX really gather enough support from developers?

Online Extras: For links to the best sites for downloading Internet Explorer 3.0, check out *PC Computing*'s Web page at www.pccomputing.com.

Free
Microsoft
(800) 426-9400
Reader Service No. 686

Navigator 3.0

★★★★★

Verdict: The best browser keeps getting better.

Pros: Built-in support for streaming audio and video, Java, and VRML, plus hooks for hundreds of free plug-ins. New CoolTalk utility includes a Net phone with data-sharing and text-chat features.

Cons: The $49 price is reasonable, but Microsoft's Internet Explorer 3.0 is free.

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The Skinny on Compaq's Latest

SNEAK PREVIEW

It's your choice: Lug around a shoulder-wrenching multimedia portable, or breeze along with an ultraskinny notetaker. Now you can get both in one with Compaq's new Armada 4100.

Good Credentials The Armada 4100 has a cunning but inelegant design that borrows greatly from Digital Equipment's HiNote series. Like the superthin HiNote Ultra II, Compaq's Armada 4100 includes an optional, removable multimedia expansion base with a quad-speed CD-ROM drive (the HiNote comes with a six-speed drive) and speakers that attach to the bottom of the unit. This convenient drive-and-speaker duo weighs in at less than 3 pounds and lets you tote full multimedia power only when you need it. By detaching the expansion base, you save on both space and heft.

Stripped to its skivvies, the Armada is a 5.6-pound, ultraslim productivity workhorse. You get a 120MHz Pentium CPU (a 133MHz version will ship by the time you read this), 16MB of RAM (expandable to 48MB), a 256K L2 cache, a 1.08GB hard drive, and a generous 11.8-inch active-matrix display. The machine measures 1.5 by 11.4 by 8.8 inches. It begs to travel.

But unlike the HiNote, the Armada 4100 is a solid presentation platform even without its multimedia expansion base—thanks greatly to its big, bright display with a resolution of up to 800 by 600 pixels. Audiences of five will suffer no eyestrain. Dual speakers are mounted at the corners of the Armada's wrist rest. They're tinny, but competent for simple soundtracks. For rumbling stereo and complex voice-overs before large audiences, you'll want to use the speakers in the multimedia expansion base, which are bigger and more resonant.

In addition to 16-bit audio, there's full-motion video and MPEG circuitry integrated in the base unit. You won't find this much multimedia prowess in such a portable 6-pound package anywhere else.

Even though the HiNote weighs only 5.4 pounds *with* its multimedia module attached, its runty 10.4-inch display pales when sitting next to the Armada's. And the HiNote lacks MPEG and full-motion video. These are missing in IBM's ultrathin ThinkPad 560 as well (see "Ultratrim and Built to Travel," July, page 52). However, at 4.1 pounds the ThinkPad weighs over a pound less than the Armada, is thinner at 1.2 inches, and has a larger, higher-resolution 12.1-inch screen. In size and weight alone, Compaq's Armada is outflanked by both the HiNote Ultra II and the ThinkPad 560.

Swap It On the other hand, neither the ThinkPad 560 nor the HiNote is as scalable or as versatile as the Armada unit. The Armada lets you swap the floppy drive for a second battery, and its multimedia expansion base has a third battery bay as well. The Armada 4100 is the first ultrathin portable

FILEBOX

Armada 4100

★★★★

Verdict: A lightweight notebook that grows into a multimedia powerhouse.

Pros: Starts out thin but grows with your needs; built-in speakers and MPEG support.

Cons: Complex design; could be thinner still; gets heavy when you load up the multimedia add-ons.

Features as Tested: 120MHz Pentium CPU, 16MB of RAM, 256K L2 cache, 1.08GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive (detachable), 11.8-inch active-matrix display (800-by-600-pixel resolution), 16-bit audio with dual stereo speakers, full-motion video and MPEG circuitry, removable floppy drive (swaps with battery).

Less than $5,000 (final price not available)
Compaq Computer Corp.
(800) 345-1518
Reader Service No. 658

Thin for Travel—Or Packed for Presentations

Bare Essentials: At its most basic, Compaq's ultrathin Armada 4100 has only what you need to work on the road: a fast Pentium CPU, a gigabyte of storage, and a radiant 11.8-inch screen.

Scale It Up: Leave the floppy drive in your briefcase and add a second battery to the Armada for those transcontinental flights. We only wish you could add a CD drive here as well.

Pull Out the Stops: Add the multimedia expansion base, a CD-ROM drive, speakers, and an extra battery, and you've got a traveling road show and desktop replacement in one.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARNOLD 1105EJD

New! Compaq Armada 4100

you can scale up to a full-fledged notebook—or even a desktop replacement—simply by adding on, swapping in, and otherwise connecting the menagerie of hardware components that come with it.

There's no free lunch in this arrangement, however. With its multimedia expansion base, an AC adapter, and all three batteries installed, the Armada's weight increases to a shoulder-ripping 10.4 pounds. But then many multimedia portables weigh this much when decked for travel. Few, however, come with as big a screen or provide more than seven hours of battery life on a single charge. Nor do many notebooks match the Armada's MPEG support and audio options.

The Armada's versatility goes beyond its ability to expand and shrink. It offers several less-conspicuous design touches, too. For example, the processor, RAM, and hard drive are all upgradable, and you can swap the rather narrow and receded touch pad for a trackball device. (Alas, there's no pointing-stick option.) Four programmable keys, ostensibly application launchers, reside just below the standard function keys.

Also, the main lithium-ion battery, housed in an elliptical tube, attaches to the back of the unit. Rotate it outward and it's a carrying handle for the notebook; rotate it downward and it props up the rear of the machine to form an ergonomically correct typing angle. It's odd looking (actually, it's downright ugly) but its utility is undeniable.

As you'd expect, the Armada's pleasing flexibility results from its complex design. As such, usability suffers. For the first time in many years, you may find yourself poring over a portable's manual when you uncrate it, trying to understand what all your options are and how the pieces fit together. And while the machine's fit-and-finish is up to Compaq's highbrow standards, learning how to attach and detach the system's various components is not particularly intuitive.

Educate Yourself Ultimately the payoff is worth it. Final prices were not available at press time, but Compaq officials affirm that the system we tested will cost well under $5,000. With a dual-scan passive-matrix screen and 8MB of RAM, the Armada 4100 will be priced from $2,499—which is $200 less than IBM's equivalently equipped ThinkPad 560, and several hundred dollars less than Digital's HiNote Ultra II. And because memory, batteries, and multimedia components can be purchased piecemeal as those needs arise, your Armada won't become obsolete before you've depreciated the investment.

In fact, the Armada holds immense appeal both as a bellwether addition to corporate notebook pools and as a traveling companion for people whose itineraries put irregular demands on a portable. Scale it up—or scale it down—as your needs change. Why hasn't someone thought of this before?

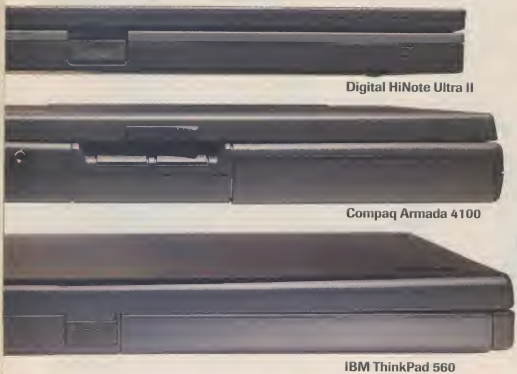
If there's any complaint about the Armada, it's that you can't scale it down even further. After about the third day on a business junket, a pound of heft and a half-inch of height make a big difference to briefcase capacity and the crushing load on your lumbar. You may find yourself wishing the machine were smaller and lighter or that it carried more features. Given its relative thickness, for example, you'd think that a CD-ROM drive could swap into the bay that holds a floppy or a second battery.

Regardless, the HiNote's success and the ThinkPad 560's early splash prove that there's still a keen need for an ultrathin, ultralight notetaker and e-mail fetcher that can occasionally double as a presentation machine.

Compaq's Armada 4100 gets you most of the way there. If your needs tend to scale upward, check it out. And even if they don't, you'll want to give it some serious consideration. **MARTY JEROME**

Thin and Thinner

Compaq's Armada 4100 is one of several new ultratrim portables with a minimalist design. But compared with IBM's ThinkPad 560 and Digital's HiNote Ultra II systems, it could still stand to lose some heft.



Digital HiNote Ultra II

Compaq Armada 4100

IBM ThinkPad 560

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Dell Dimension XPS P200s, Micron Millennia P200, Polywell Poly P5200IP5

P200s Outrun P166s—Barely

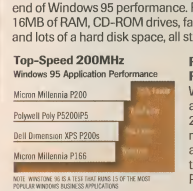
SNEAK PREVIEW

Time to bid goodbye to 166MHz? A trio of 200MHz Pentium systems just joined Gateway 2000's P5-200CDR (see "200MHz Pentium Powerhouse," July, page 57) to raise the ante on Windows 95 performance. But as we discovered with the Gateway model, any performance gains over 166MHz systems are small when running CPU-intensive applications. Where these systems really shine is in transaction processing.

Load It Up All three machines come from the usual performance leaders: Micron, Polywell, and Dell. And all three systems teem with top-drawer components: 16MB of advanced EDO RAM or SDRAM, big 512K L2 caches, six- or eight-speed CD-ROM drives, 64-bit video accelerators with 2MB or 4MB of memory, and a raft of software.

The systems differ not only in the particulars of their configurations but also in their chip sets. Micron's Millennia P200—the fastest of the three in our application benchmark tests—uses Intel's 82430HX PCI chip set. It supports Concurrent PCI, which lets both PCI and ISA buses execute transactions simultaneously, thereby eliminating the lag time as one bus hands off data to the other. There's also support for parity error-correcting memory, which detects and corrects memory errors; and a shared pipeline-burst L2 cache that maximizes the performance of EDO RAM. These technologies boost the performance of transaction processing that is typical of databases, multimedia applications, and high-end graphics. The Millennia P200 led the pack in straight graphics chores as well. With a 2.5GB hard drive, an eight-speed CD-ROM drive, 16-bit audio with wavetable support, and a 17-inch monitor, the Millennia P200 costs $3,257. It is, quite simply, the fastest Pentium money can buy.

Blazing Trio: Three new 200MHz Pentiums (from left) from Polywell, Dell, and Micron redefine the high end of Windows 95 performance. Fully loaded with 16MB of RAM, CD-ROM drives, fast graphics cards, and lots of a hard disk space, all start at under $3,500.



Revved and Ready: In our Windows 95 application tests, 200MHz Pentiums run only as much as 15 percent faster than 166MHz Pentiums.

Polywell's $2,758 Poly 5200IP5 outperformed the Gateway and Dell models in our application benchmark tests. Like those models, the Poly comes with the 82430HX PCI chip set. It also includes a 1.2GB hard drive, Matrox's 64-bit Millennium graphics card, 2MB of WRAM, a six-speed CD-ROM drive, a 16-bit Sound Blaster audio card, and speakers, plus Sampo's 17MX monitor. It's not the highest-end system, but it is the most affordable.

Decked Out Although Dell's Dimension XPS P200s trailed the other two in application benchmarks, it's hardly a laggard. And it features a fine complement of high-end components, including a 2.5GB hard drive, an eight-speed CD-ROM drive, and Number Nine's Imagine II graphics card with 4MB of VRAM.

The Dimension XPS P200s uses Intel's 82430VX chip set, which lacks parity memory but does support synchronous DRAM. The system is priced around $3,429—or $630 more than the lower-end XPS P166. Given that the performance of the Dimension is less than 15 percent faster, its 166MHz sibling is easily a better buy. **MARTY JEROME**

FILEBOX

Dimension XPS P200s

★★★½

Verdict: Dell's lower-end Dimension XPS P166 is a better value—and it's almost as fast.

$3,429 est. street price
Dell Computer
(800) 879-3355
Reader Service No. 689

Millennia P200

★★★★

Verdict: When every nanosecond of Windows 95 performance counts, this is the machine to get. It's the fastest 200MHz Pentium you'll find.

$3,257 est. street price
Micron
(800) 515-9197
Reader Service No. 690

Poly P5200IP5

★★★★

Verdict: Who says you can't afford a 200MHz Pentium? This one's a steal.

$2,758 est. street price
Polywell
(800) 999-1278
Reader Service No. 691

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

PHOTOGRAPH BY ARNOLD TOSKE/JD

Perfect Printing for Small Networks

The days of text-only documents are history, and so is waiting for minutes on end for a 3-page report to creep out of that dinosaur you call a printer. Hewlett-Packard's new LaserJet 5, 5N, and 5M printers offer just the upgrade your small department needs. Although they're not the fastest lasers around, they're well priced, yield solid output, and easily connect to a network.

These new LaserJet printers mark the first time Hewlett-Packard has offered three separate models to replace a single existing one—in this case, the LaserJet 4Plus. The LaserJet 5 is the base model and includes 4MB of RAM. The LaserJet 5N includes a JetDirect card for Ethernet networks (a LocalTalk option is available) and 4MB of RAM. To all of the 5N's features, the LaserJet 5M adds PostScript printing plus 2MB of RAM for a 6MB total.

A New Generation The new LaserJet 5 printers offer small but worthy enhancements—most notably lower prices, with units starting at $1,299. The 12-ppm engine and 600-dpi resolution remain the same as the LaserJet 4Plus's, but the new model has a 33MHz RISC processor—up from 25MHz—so you get slightly better performance for large print jobs. Still, it's not the fastest printer in this price range: Lexmark's Optra LX offers a 16-ppm speed print engine and 1,200-dpi output.

The most noteworthy addition to the LaserJet 5 is PCL 6—the newest generation of HP's printer control language. The advantages of PCL 6 are subtle but welcome. Print jobs spool to the printer faster so you regain control of your apps in less time. Documents with complex graphics print more quickly, and output quality is slightly better.

One new option on the LaserJet 5 is an infrared port for wireless printing. However, the infrared port costs $79 extra, even though it's standard on HP's lower-end models, the LaserJet 5P and 5MP.

In our tests, the LaserJet 5's output was noticeably better than that of its predecessors in handling complex graphic images and producing fine detail in grayscale photographic output. For dark backgrounds, we also found that the LaserJet 5's blacks were richer and smoother than those of previous models. Although the LaserJet 5's 600-dpi output wasn't quite as clear as the Optra LX's 1,200-dpi output, for most uses the quality should be more than adequate.

Hooked In Linking the printer to a network and giving everyone access is easy with HP's JetAdmin software, which is included with the JetDirect network card on the 5N and 5M models. The card also supports several network operating systems, including Windows 95, Windows NT, Novell's NetWare, and Unix.

Out of the box, the printer holds just 350 sheets of paper in its two trays. However, you can purchase an additional 500-sheet tray that boosts the overall capacity to 850 sheets. You can also purchase a duplex option to handle dual-sided printing.

While the enhancements are subtle, the new LaserJet 5 is a great printer for small networks. If you're looking for pure printing speed, consider Lexmark's Optra LX, which offers better performance and superb resolution for a few hundred dollars more. But for fail-safe quality, flexible configuration options, easy network setup, and strong performance, the LaserJet 5 won't disappoint. KYLA K. CARLSON

High Five: Hewlett-Packard's new LaserJet 5, 5M (shown above), and 5N printers offer the same 12-ppm engine and 600-dpi output as the company's LaserJet 4Plus series, but add a 33MHz RISC processor for better performance on large print jobs. In addition, these printers sport PCL 6, HP's next-generation printer control language that speeds print spooling and improves graphics output quality. Network setup is also easier, making the LaserJet 5 printers ideal for small networks.

FILEBOX

LaserJet 5

★★★★

Verdict: An improved printer control language and a new low price make the LaserJet 5 printers ideal for small networks.

Pros: Easy network setup; better graphics output; fast performance.

Cons: Not the fastest lasers for the price range; stingy 350-sheet paper tray.

Competition: For just a bit more money, Lexmark's Optra LX line of network laser printers include a 16-ppm engine and 1,200-dpi output (also available in an 8-ppm model).

Features as Tested: 12-ppm engine, 600-dpi resolution, PCL 6 support. The LaserJet 5 includes 4MB of RAM; the LaserJet 5N adds Ethernet support; the LaserJet 5M comes with Ethernet and PostScript support, and ups the RAM to 6MB.

$1,299 (LaserJet 5); $1,549 (LaserJet 5N); $1,799 (LaserJet 5M) est. street prices
Hewlett-Packard
(800) 752-0900

PHOTOGRAPH BY ARNOLD TOSELLI

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

Corel® Office Professional, the #1 Suite Solution for Today's Office

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- 98 spreadsheet functions - all available with a click of the mouse

Corel® Quattro® Pro 6.0

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- SpeedFormat - apply your choice of ready-made formats to any range—for great-looking spreadsheet printouts
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- Experts - quickly create forms and reports

Corel® Presentations™ 3.0

- Built-in TWAIN interface lets you scan artwork or drag video images directly into your show
- Build slide shows directly from your WordPerfect®, Microsoft® Word or Lotus® Ami Pro® outline
- Versatility - apply multiple backgrounds, graphics, sound and text within one presentation

The Bottom Line:
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Circle 231 on reader service card.

The Living-Room PC

Couch potatoes, get ready. The computer age is about to invade your living room. Gateway 2000's Destination series is here, combining a fast Pentium processor, a 31-inch monitor, a TV-video card, and wireless controls. Sound expensive? It is—yet not painfully so. The Destination has some kinks, but it's a fun toy that moves a step toward a new kind of home-entertainment center.

The Destination starts at $3,499 for a 120MHz model; the price increases to $3,999 for the 166MHz Destination D5-166, which we tested. Gateway offers a Harmon Kardon speaker set for an extra $699, or you can wire the Destination to your own stereo system.

Setup is no small task (it'll take an afternoon if you do it yourself), but once you're plugged in it's party time. Even so, the Destination isn't perfect. The sound card was quirky, and although the standard joystick worked fine, the keyboard's track pad was awkward to use. All in all, though, it's an incredible experience.

With the TV-video card, you can Net surf, channel surf, or do both simultaneously (albeit with a slight performance lag). The Destination's screen uses a digital signal to get excellent television picture quality, and the card lets it work with analog devices like a VCR as well.

Gamer's Dream: Gateway 2000's Destination D5-166 includes a fast Pentium processor, a 31-inch monitor, and wireless controls for less than $4,000.

The Destination won't replace your business PC—we can't imagine creating a spreadsheet with this thing. But it makes a handy presentation tool, not to mention a terrific Doom station. **JULIE POLITO**

FILEBOX

Destination D5-166

★★★★

Verdict: It's not perfect, but it's the first serious PC-based entertainment center around.

Pros: Add a good stereo system and it's a gamer's heaven.

Cons: Setup can be a hassle.

Features as Tested: 166MHz Pentium CPU, 16MB of RAM, 1.2GB hard drive, six-speed CD-ROM drive, 28.8Kbps fax modem, 31-inch monitor, STB TV–VGA video card.

$3,499 to $3,999 est. street price
Gateway 2000
(800) 846-2000
Reader Service No. 692

MicroNet Technology ADV2600MOE vs. Pinnacle Micro Vertex

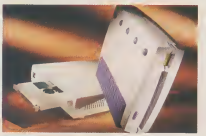
Gigabytes to Burn

Magneto-optical is slow, right? Two new magneto-optical drives from MicroNet Technology and Pinnacle Micro debunk that old moonshine. They're the safest, cheapest way to tote around a couple of gigabytes—and they're not as sluggish as you might think.

In our performance tests, both 2.6GB drives achieved data-transfer rates of at least 4.5MBps when using a PCI controller.

Pinnacle's Fast SCSI-2 Vertex costs an eye-popping $1,350 and is the fastest magneto-optical drive we've seen—nearing the speed of a regular hard drive. MicroNet's $2,590 ADV2600MOE costs more and isn't as fast as the Vertex. But if your office is juggling several data-storage types, you can use MicroNet's drive as one of many modules in the company's portable DataDock 525 system, which lets you transport data between computers—regardless of whether they're outfitted with a magneto-optical drive.

Cartridges for both drives are fully rewritable. For data-hungry applications that require high security and portability, either of these drives is an ideal solution. **MARTY JEROME**



Safe Move: MO drives from Pinnacle (right) and MicroNet (left) are a cheap way to move and store data.

FILEBOX

MicroNet ADV2600MOE

★★★

Verdict: Solid performer but expensive.

$2,590 est. street price
MicroNet Technology
(714) 453-6100
Reader Service No. 693

Vertex

★★★★

Verdict: Cheap, fast, and portable storage.

$1,350 est. street price
Pinnacle Micro, (800) 553-7070
Reader Service No. 694

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARNOLD TORELLO

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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Supercheap Six-speed CD-ROM

We've all been there. Just as you empty your wallet for the baddest, fastest new PC add-on money can buy, it's time to upgrade to something faster. NEC makes it a little easier to hedge obsolescence by offering one of the most inexpensive six-speed CD-ROM drives to date. At a mere $99, the MultiSpin 6V costs less than most quad-speed drives.

Just because it's affordable doesn't mean performance is substandard. In our tests, the MultiSpin hit data-transfer rates of up to 900Kbps, giving us smooth video and games. Its access times reached 145ms, allowing for fast database searches. A generous 128K cache also keeps speeds high.

The drive's one shortcoming is that it's available in an internal version only. Don't look for a free copy of your favorite game in the box, either. This CD-ROM drive is barebones, equipped only with an Enhanced IDE (EIDE) cable and software drivers. If you don't have an EIDE controller, you have to buy one separately.

Sure, eight-speed and ten-speed CD-ROM drives are edging out six-speed units in performance. But with most multimedia titles still optimized for quad-speed drives, the $99 MultiSpin offers all the CD-ROM speed you need at a price that won't leave you spinning. JACK LYON

Spin Out: Get a six-speed CD-ROM drive at a fire-sale price—NEC's MultiSpin 6V sells for a mere $99.

FILEBOX

MultiSpin 6V

★★★★

Verdict: A fast six-speed CD-ROM drive for under $100? We'll take two.

Pros: Easy to install; snappy performance.

Cons: Available as an internal unit only; no controller included.

Competition: Six-speed drives from Toshiba, Umax, and others offer similar speed but cost at least $50 more.

$99 est. street price
NEC Technologies
(800) 388-8888
Reader Service No. 695

Diamond Multimedia Supra NetCommander ISDN

ISDN Meets Plug and Play

If the frustration and expense of ISDN keeps you from shifting your Internet connection into high gear, take a look at Diamond Multimedia Systems' Supra NetCommander ISDN. Ideal for telecommuters, small-office users, and high-volume Web surfers, the Supra NetCommander lets you access data at more than four times the rate of a 28.8Kbps analog modem. More important, it's the first ISDN modem we've seen that's actually easy to set up.

The Supra NetCommander is Plug and Play–compatible and includes AutoISDN software that steps you through installation and configuration.

After we inserted the Supra NetCommander into an ISA slot, our Windows 95 system automatically recognized the new hardware. A few driver disks and a restart later, the Supra NetCommander was ready for configuration.

But the real difference came in the software setup. Instead of an archaic and cumbersome terminal-mode configuration, you get Windows-based AutoISDN software that walks you through the complications of ISDN setup. AutoISDN also includes a handy configuration order form that you can fax to your service provider for information about your ISDN line, including switch type and service profile identifiers.

The Supra NetCommander supports Multilink Point-to-Point Protocol and has throughput speeds of up to 128Kbps. It doesn't include an analog modem, but at just $299 it's an easy way to get wired for ISDN. RICH SCHWERIN

Better Than Aspirin: Diamond's Supra NetCommander ISDN eliminates ISDN headaches with setup wizards.

FILEBOX

Supra NetCommander ISDN

★★★★

Verdict: Plug and Play ISDN connections for a song.

Pros: Easy ISDN configuration.

Cons: No analog modem.

$299 est. street price
Diamond Multimedia Systems
(800) 468-5846, (408) 325-7000
Reader Service No. 696

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARNOLD TOSTI JD

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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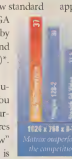
PC COMPUTING BEST BUY A LIST

MGA Millennium - added features at a new low price

When Matrox combined its revolutionary MGA 64-bit chip technology, powerful Window RAM memory and a 220 Mhz RAMDAC, a new standard in high performance graphics was established with MGA Millennium. Now Matrox raises the performance bar once again by adding more power and new features for Windows 95™ and Windows NT™. All this at an incredible low price of only $269 (ESP)*.

Not only do you get consistently fast performance at maximum resolutions and color depths for Windows, video playback, 3D and DOS. You also get a blinding 37 Million Winmarks of raw graphics speed and further optimized drivers for Windows 95 and Windows NT. New features include Matrox's new Desk Navigator for a powerful "bird's eye view" to scroll around a virtual desktop of 2048 x 1536. Also included is Netscape's 3D Web browser, color calibration software from Sonnetech and over 20 enhancements for your Windows 95 and Windows NT desktop.



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* Estimated street selling price for the 2MB version. Windows 95 tests conducted by Matrox Graphics Inc. using ZiffDavis' Winbench 95 on a Gateway P5-166MHz 16MB of RAM and 256K cache at 1024 x 768 at 256 colors 72 Hz. Large fonts under Windows 95. The Matrox MGA Millennium and Diamond Stealth 64 Video were each configured with 2 MB of memory and the Number Nine Imagine 128 2 was configured with 4 MB of memory. Hz (or Hz) refer to the vertical refresh rate(s) of the monitor. Hz (or Hz) refer to the horizontal refresh rate(s) of the monitor. Imagine 128 2 resolutions: 1024 x 768 @ 70 Hz, 1152 x 900 @ 66 Hz, 1280 x 1024 @ 60 Hz. Stealth 64 Video resolutions: 1024 x 768 @ 87 Hz, 1152 x 900 @ 76 Hz, 1280 x 1024 @ 60 Hz. Millennium resolutions: 1024 x 768 @ 87 Hz, 1152 x 900 @ 76 Hz, 1280 x 1024 @ 60 Hz. Millennium 3D tests conducted by Matrox Graphics Inc. using ZiffDavis' Winbench 95 on a Gateway P5-166MHz 16MB of RAM and 256K cache at 1024 x 768 at 256 colors 72 Hz. Large fonts under Windows 95. The Matrox MGA Millennium and Diamond Stealth 64 Video were each configured with 2 MB of memory and the Number Nine Imagine 128 2 was configured with 4 MB of memory. Hz (or Hz) refer to the vertical refresh rate(s) of the monitor. Hz (or Hz) refer to the horizontal refresh rate(s) of the monitor. Imagine 128 2 resolutions: 1024 x 768 @ 70 Hz, 1152 x 900 @ 66 Hz, 1280 x 1024 @ 60 Hz. Stealth 64 Video resolutions: 1024 x 768 @ 87 Hz, 1152 x 900 @ 76 Hz, 1280 x 1024 @ 60 Hz. Millennium resolutions: 1024 x 768 @ 87 Hz, 1152 x 900 @ 76 Hz, 1280 x 1024 @ 60 Hz.

Circle 154 on reader service card.

Messaging Without Wires

Most mobile professionals need to pack light, stay connected, and save money. But too often, wireless messaging means bulky radio modems, installation woes, and outrageously expensive service charges. U.S. Robotics' Megahertz AllPoints Wireless PC Card, with messaging service from Wynd Communications, addresses all these issues and makes wireless messaging easy.

The card fits into any Type II PC Card slot. It weighs less than half a pound, runs off a standard 9-volt battery, and installs on your Windows 95 desktop in seconds. Use it to send and receive e-mail, faxes, and files anywhere, anytime—without wires. And at $499, it's an outstanding bargain.

The AllPoints uses the RAM Mobile Data Network, which covers 90 percent of the United States. After turning on the modem, we were sending and receiving e-mail and file attachments, and sending faxes via our WyndMail Internet address. The package also offers a text-to-speech service similar to DTS Wireless's Zapit (see "Wide-Area Wireless Communicators," December 1995, page 94) for sending computerized voice messages to any phone number, and messages to any pager.

The Megahertz AllPoints Wireless PC Card is a reliable way to go wireless. You won't find a cheaper solution for staying connected when you're on the go. RICH SCHWERIN

Well Connected: U.S. Robotics' Megahertz AllPoints Wireless PC Card radio modem sends and receives e-mail, faxes, and files with no strings attached.

FILEBOX

Megahertz AllPoints Wireless PC Card

★★★★½

Verdict: Radio-modem power at a price you can afford.

Pros: Compact, lightweight radio modem; a snap to install and use.

Cons: The RAM Mobile Data Network doesn't reach some remote areas of the country.

$499 list price
U.S. Robotics
(800) 527-8677, (801) 320-7000
Reader Service No. 697

NEC Technologies SuperScript 860

A Bargain Laser for Every Desk

Are you torn between buying a slow ink-jet printer that handles color and a fast monochrome laser that delivers great text but no splashy hues? Get both. With NEC's $499 SuperScript 860 you can have the 8-ppm, 600-dpi monochrome laser quality you want—and enough money left over to buy a color ink-jet printer, too.

The SuperScript 860 is the first printer to ship with Adobe's PrintGear, a new printer language with many features (including a faster return-to-application time) that are ideal for personal lasers. PrintGear supports a variety of printing formats, including watermark, poster, and booklet printing. It also improves the printer's overall performance.

The SuperScript 860's text output was sharp, albeit somewhat dark. Graphics were also on the dark side; details were muddied in printed photographs and scanned images. For use with most applications, however, the SuperScript 860 is more than adequate. Overall performance was snappy: It took 90 seconds to print an 11-page text document, and about the same amount of time for a 3-page presentation with text and graphics.

The SuperScript 860 is rich with features, easy to set up, and fast. It offers monochrome output that will satisfy all but the most discriminating users. And at just $499, it's a steal. KYLA K. CARLSON

It's Personal: NEC's SuperScript 860 desktop laser printer sports a quality 8-ppm, 600-dpi engine—yet costs less than $500.

FILEBOX

SuperScript 860

★★★★

Verdict: An 8-ppm, 600-dpi printer for under $500? You can't go wrong.

Pros: A fast performer with easy-to-use software.

Cons: Text and graphics output is on the dark side.

Competition: Hewlett-Packard's $899 LaserJet 5P offers only a 6-ppm engine.

Features as Tested: 1MB of RAM (expandable to 5MB), 8 ppm, 600 dpi.

$499 est. street price
NEC Technologies
(800) 632-4636, (415) 528-6000
Reader Service No. 698

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARNOLD TIDSLJO

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

COREL

WordPerfect Suite 7

32-Bit Office Suite, Graphics and Internet Power for Windows® 95

Corel® WordPerfect® Suite 7 on CD-ROM† redefines the office suite by adding powerful graphics capability and total Internet connectivity that fit the way you work today—perfectly. Powerful core application features, refined file management tools plus advanced Internet and graphics technology empower your business communications while increasing your productivity and optimizing workgroup collaboration. You'll discover how to finish faster with less effort, get the most out of Windows® 95 and put the Internet to work for you. With all this and more, Corel® WordPerfect® Suite 7 is quite simply the smartest, most powerful, most versatile suite you can buy.

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Make the Most of Windows® 95

Work faster with full 32-bit applications—including support for long file names, multithreading, multitasking and OLE 2.0 in-place editing for optimum performance.

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†† Telecommunication and other charges may apply, depending on usage and location

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NEW Spell-As-You-Go - underlines words that might be misspelled so you can correct them as you type

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COREL Quattro Pro 7

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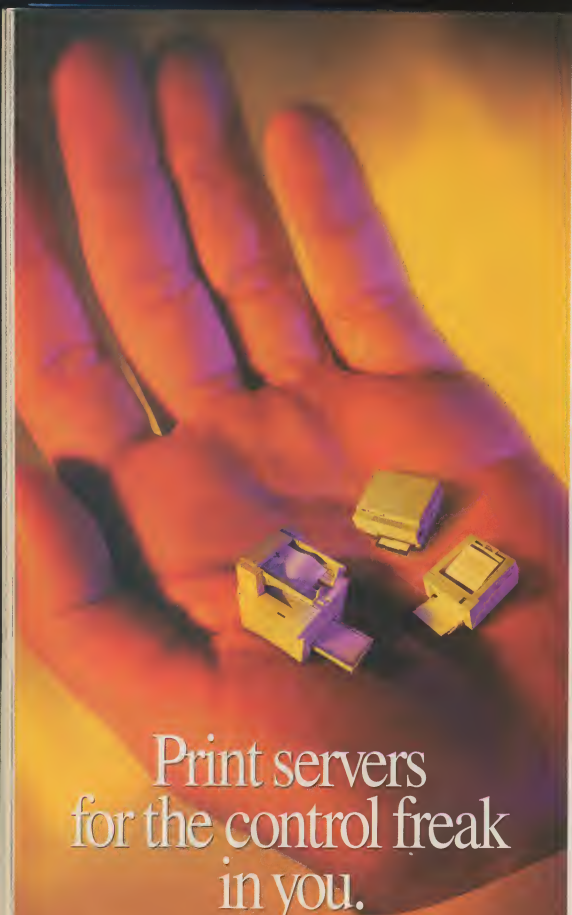

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Symantec Norton NT Tools 1.0

Fine-tune Your NT Power

Welcome to the age of downsizing, where no one—not even Peter Norton—is immune from the pressure to run leaner, meaner, and cheaper. Case in point: Symantec's Norton NT Tools, version 1.0. Longtime users of Norton's everything-but-the-kitchen-sink utility collections will find the roster of applets slimmed down substantially in the NT version. The disk-repair and defragmentation tools from the original Norton Utilities are missing, for example, as are the multiple desktops, batch language, and shell enhancements in Norton Desktop for Windows 95 and Norton Navigator.

It's not a bad deal, though. For $50 you get antivirus software, a file manager, and tools for monitoring key system resources such as memory and disk space. All are 32-bit native NT applications that run on Windows NT 3.51 or later.

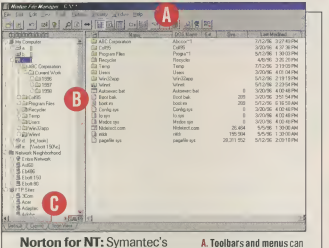
Bug Killer Like its DOS and 16-bit Windows cousins, Norton NT Tools can track an impressive list of viruses, and Symantec updates the virus signature files monthly. The payoff for NT users is limited, though, because the operating system's security layers block the overwhelming majority of DOS-based viruses and there are no known NT viruses—yet. NT's security also creates a big usability barrier on corporate networks. Unless you're logged on as an administrator, you can't use the full range of virus-scanning options.

We had mixed results with the newest, most annoying class of viruses: self-executing macros that infect Microsoft Word documents. In our tests, Norton AntiVirus successfully detected and repaired Word documents infected with the Concept macro virus, but it didn't prevent us from opening those documents by double-clicking on them.

Looking for Trouble Norton NT Tools includes a dizzying array of alarms and sensors to help you track system resources like paging files, memory, disk space, and network throughput. We were puzzled by inconsistent readings between the modules, but the sensors were useful for tracking trends and particularly helpful for pinpointing applications that use more than their fair share of memory.

Longtime fans of Norton's replacement for the Windows File Manager will feel right at home with this modest update. It handles long filenames flawlessly, and built-in viewers let you peek inside files without opening a separate application. So is it the ideal replacement for Windows 95's Explorer? Not yet. Anyone who wants to shift between the Norton File Manager and the Windows Explorer will be frustrated by the missing features in the NT version. Right-click context menus, for example, don't sync with their Explorer equivalents.

All in all, it's hard not to like this collection of useful tools, especially at the bargain price. We suspect that neither the price nor the roster of utilities will remain the same for very long, however. As Windows NT grows in popularity, Norton NT Tools—along with its price tag—will upsize considerably. ED BOTT



Norton for NT: Symantec's Norton NT Tools includes antivirus software, a file manager, and tools that monitor key system resources. The disk-repair and defragmentation tools from the original Norton Utilities are missing, however.

A. Toolbars and menus can be customized with precision.

B. Bland file icons provide less information than those in NT 4.0's Explorer.

C. The program's **FTP utility** lets FTP sites look and feel like network drives.

Common Sensors: The System Doctor shows you when memory or swap-file space runs low.

FILEBOX

Norton NT Tools 1.0

★★★★★

Verdict: The first NT applications to carry the Norton label perform a handful of simple tasks well.

Pros: Modest price; small memory and disk footprint.

Cons: No disk utilities; File Manager not well integrated.

Features: Norton File Manager with Zip/UnZip support, Norton System Doctor, antivirus utility, FTP utility, complete system-information reporting.

Competition: Utilities like McAfee's NetShield and Cheyenne's ArcServe offer NT virus protection and other system tools, but cost hundreds more and don't monitor system resources the way Norton does.

System Requirements: NT Workstation or Server version 3.51 or later, NTFS or FAT file system, 16MB of RAM, 8.5MB of hard disk space.

$50 est. street price
Symantec
(800) 441-7234, (541) 334-6054
Reader Service No. 704

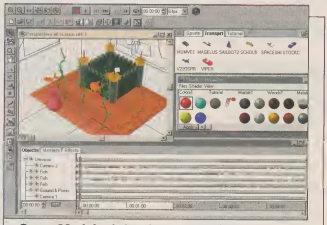
Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

A New Dimension in Animation

On the Web and in multimedia, 3-D is the name of the game—the slicker the better. But not everyone is a seasoned artist—most of us can barely draw stick figures. Two animation products, Macromedia's Extreme 3D and Ray Dream's Studio, let beginners find their creative side while still providing enough complexity to keep advanced users busy. Extreme 3D is easier to use and is perfect for beginners and intermediate animators. Ray Dream Studio takes longer to master but is a truly complete animation package at a knockout price.

Model Behavior Both packages use spline-based modeling—surfaces are made up of curves, not polygons—which provides a powerful editing and animation environment. Extreme 3D's modeler lets you easily create 3-D images from 2-D objects through simple controls such as Extrude. In Ray Dream Studio, modeling from scratch is similar but demands more precision with less point-and-click activity. Beginners are better off using the Scene and Modeling wizards, which guide you step by step through the creation of background scenes and common objects like chairs or vases.

Both products have strong feature sets. Every characteristic, from models to lighting, can be animated. Both Extreme 3D and Ray Dream Studio use fully editable time lines, so you can change your animations frame by frame. But Ray Dream Studio takes animation a step further by offering tricks like rotoscoping and inverse kinematics, a function that lets you create and link objects in a manner that reflects the true movement of the body.



Super Models: Animation is affordable and almost easy with Ray Dream Studio. It comes with everything you need to build your own animations—including a good manual that you're likely to use.

Extremely Easy: Although it lacks many advanced professional animation tools, Macromedia's Extreme 3D is one of the easiest ways to create slick-looking 3-D effects.

Each product takes a different approach to rendering. Extreme 3D renders creations more quickly, but it's confined to procedural, Phong-based rendering, which is less accurate than Ray Dream Studio's photorealistic ray tracing. However, Ray Dream Studio users pay for that life-like rendering with their time—the process takes forever on anything but the fastest Pentium. In contrast, Extreme 3D has a network-able rendering feature, which allows you to divide large jobs among all the computers on your network.

Extreme 3D also comes with hundreds of fonts for 3-D text plus a bonus CD of textures and environment and bump maps. Ray Dream Studio includes 500 Dream Models and an Extension Portfolio that includes features like a panoramic camera. While Extreme 3D interacts well with other Macromedia programs like Director, both it and Ray Dream Studio lack VRML development tools. However, Ray Dream promises to include them in a mid-summer upgrade.

Manual Labor You don't need to be an artist to use these animation packages, but you do need patience. Unless you have a rocket-fueled system, rendering takes a while. Extreme 3D is more accessible for beginners, but on both programs the learning curve steepens after you master the basic shapes. Extreme 3D has a passable online tutorial; Ray Dream Studio has a thick manual that you'll probably need.

If you want an easy interface and are comfortable with Macromedia products, get Extreme 3D. But if you need professional-quality renderings and have the time for trial and error, Ray Dream Studio is the most complete animation package for the price. **MATT JOHAN AND JULIE POLITO**

FILEBOX

Extreme 3D

★★★★

Verdict: An accessible 3-D development tool, though it lacks a few high-end features.

Pros: Excellent modeling and animation tools; integrates well with other Macromedia tools.

Cons: Expensive, high-end features such as ray-traced rendering are absent.

$499 est. street price
Macromedia
(800) 326-2128, (415) 252-2000
Reader Service No. 705

Ray Dream Studio

★★★★

Verdict: A complete 3-D animation package at an amazing price.

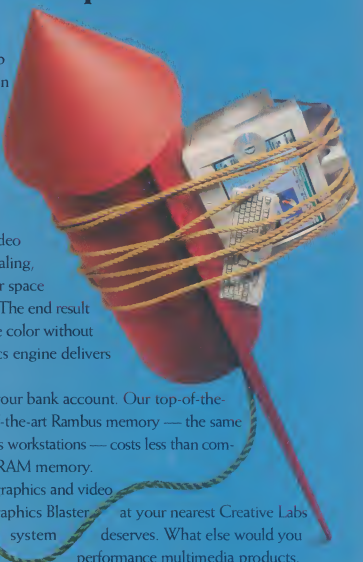
Pros: Wizards and models help you get started; models are highly accurate.

Cons: Rendering can take forever; the interface takes a while to understand.

$299 est. street price
Ray Dream
(800) 846-0111, (415) 960-0768
Reader Service No. 706

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

There are other ways to accelerate your multimedia, but may we suggest our new Graphics Blaster.



Multimedia can be a frustrating thing. Even on today's hottest systems, video playback can end up looking like a postage stamp with fewer colors than you get from a box of crayons. Or, when you zoom it to full screen, it looks like a slide show instead of a smoothly running movie. Before you resort to extremes, you might want to try our new Graphics Blaster™ multimedia accelerator from Creative Labs.

Graphics Blaster features high-tech video acceleration functions like asymptotic scaling, horizontal and vertical filtering and color space conversion built right into the hardware. The end result is video that glides onto the screen in dazzling true color without dropping frames. And the powerful 64-bit graphics engine delivers Windows® performance that will blow you away.

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So when you're ready to boost your graphics and video performance to the stratosphere, pick up a Graphics Blaster at your nearest Creative Labs dealer. It's got the multimedia muscle your system deserves. What else would you expect from Creative Labs, the leader in high-performance multimedia products.

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Graphics Blaster MA302 Multimedia Accelerator	64 BIT		1280 x 1024	150Hz		

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Circle 112 on reader service card.

Moving Forms Electronically

E-mail has banished some of the paper traffic in the office, but many workgroups are still mired in the expense and overhead of printing and storing paper-based forms. Three new packages, Caere's OmniForm 2.0, JetForm's Design, and Symantec's FormFlow 2.0 bring you one step closer to kicking the paper habit by letting you design, route, and file forms electronically. All three produce forms with multiple fonts, graphics, buttons, and other enhancements, but they differ in how they let you create, fill in, and route forms.

Paper to Pixels Caere's OmniForm 2.0 takes your paper forms and uses OCR to transform them into electronic versions. It works, but unless your forms are simple you have to do considerable editing to get them right. As with all OCR applications, OmniForm has difficulty recognizing many fonts, especially ornate ones.

If you don't want to scan existing forms, you can create new ones from scratch. OmniForm has powerful forms-creation and -manipulation features. You can modify sample forms to fit your needs. You can also fill in forms, search for completed forms in a database, send forms to their next destination via e-mail, or export them to most common database programs. Overall, OmniForm is ideal for small offices with a limited number of forms.

Jet-setter Although JetForm's Design is much more expensive than OmniForm and lacks an OCR engine, it works with a full-featured server package and has strong Internet features. JetForm's Design is the only package of the three that works with Web browsers for form input without scripting. JetForm offers the option of Filler for $99, which is essentially a database application that lets you fill in, print, or route forms through e-mail.

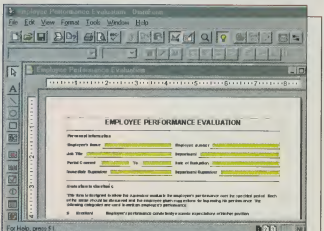
For a large corporate setting, JetForm's $1,895 Server accepts e-mailed forms, text, and database files, and processes them into company databases. Encryption and password protection allow forms to be safely sent over the Internet.

Custom Creation Symantec's FormFlow 2.0, like the others, lets you create and fill out forms. Like JetForm's Design, you can encrypt your forms for Internet travel. But its most useful feature is that you can actually create applications to automate form handling. As you can imagine, this is time-consuming—you need to have a handle on FormFlow's object-oriented language, FormBasic.

The program does allow a greater degree of customization. You can automate simple tasks like vacation requests or more complex functions like order entry. Programmers like this approach, but most users need something quicker and simpler. As with the other packages, results are easily integrated into most databases.

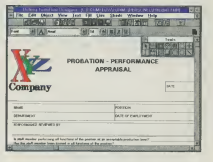
All three packages do a fine job of automating the forms process. Which one is right for you depends on your business, your budget, and how much time you're willing to devote.

For a small office or workgroup looking to convert existing paper forms into electronic format, Caere's OmniForm is a good choice. Larger businesses that want to add Internet features to their forms should consider JetForm's Design. For complete forms-handling automation, Symantec's FormFlow is the most powerful overall. Whichever you choose, your paper-pushing days may be numbered. **JIM BURTON**



Smart Forms: Electronic-form software cuts your paper costs and makes forms easier to track and store. Caere's OmniForm converts paper forms to an electronic format, and works best with plain fonts and a clean design.

Go with the Flow: FormFlow 2.0 is a complete forms-application builder, with its own programming language.



FILEBOX

FormFlow 2.0

★★★

Verdict: Customizes the whole forms process.

Pros: Excellent forms builder.

Cons: Takes some study.

$399 list price
Symantec Corp.
(800) 441-7234, (541) 334-6054
Reader Service No. 707

JetForm Design

★★★

Verdict: Internet-ready forms.

Pros: Integrates with the Web.

Cons: Expensive.

$495 est. street price
JetForm Corp.
(800) 538-3676, (703) 448-9544
Reader Service No. 708

OmniForm 2.0

★★★★

Verdict: A complete form package for the small office.

Pros: Price is right; has OCR.

Cons: Scanning takes time.

$199 est. street price
Caere Corp.
(800) 535-7226, (408) 395-7000
Reader Service No. 709

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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Designed for Microsoft® Windows®95

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Circle 224 on reader service card.

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Charles Schwab e.Schwab, E-Trade Group E-Trade

Cybertrading on the Cheap

Whether you just dip a toe in the stock market or are in it shoulder-deep, the days when you have to rely on a full-service broker to place trades are over. Two online stock programs, e.Schwab and E-Trade, are cheap and cheaper ways to research and trade securities—any time of day or night.

e.Schwab is the electronic trading service and portfolio manager from the largest name in discount brokerage services. You can trade up to 1,000 shares on the Web or over a direct connection for a flat $39 per trade, adding 3 cents for every share after that. Depending on the number of shares and share price, you could save $16 to $105 off Schwab's normal commission schedule and even a few dollars off trades with Schwab's otherwise identical StreetSmart 2.01 program.

Discount Trades E-Trade is a trading service with an even deeper discount from a more recent entrant to the game. It operates through CompuServe and America Online, over the Web, and via direct dial-up connections.

You can buy or sell unlimited shares of NASDAQ securities for $19.95 per trade and up to 5,000 shares listed on the major exchanges (New York and American) for a low $14.95, with a penny added for each share above 5,000. In other words, E-Trade saves you between $19 and $24 over e.Schwab when you're trading 1,000 shares or less and around $140 for 5,000-share trades.

So what's e.Schwab's advantage? You get the security of the Schwab name. Unfortunately, though, Schwab charges a $30 annual maintenance fee (starting in 1997) and another $5 any month your account falls below $5,000. E-Trade's minimum balance is $1,000 and there are no extra fees or fines.

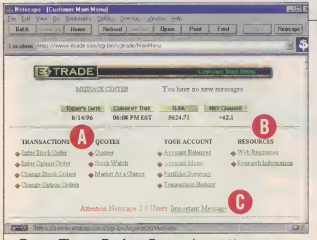
Also included in Schwab's price is free access to its Mutual Funds Performance Guide and the e.Schwab software. The software helps you manage your portfolio, and lets you download quotes and account balances and fetch market news. Account sign-up also entitles you to free trials of various services, like 60 free minutes online with Standard & Poor's MarketScope.

Free Quotes E-Trade gives you free unlimited quotes on a 20-minute delay or, for $30 a month, unlimited real-time quotes. For the same prices, you can subscribe to the same news and research Schwab uses.

Neither of these services are for anyone who needs the security of a voice on the other end of the line. Both companies have 800 technical-support numbers but prefer delivering help via e-mail.

Online trading is easy with either package. You might give e.Schwab a nod for including a portfolio manager, but frankly, you're better off using a financial manager like Intuit's Quicken. At the closing bell, however, it still comes down to price, and there E-Trade beats Schwab at the game Schwab invented.

MIKE HOGAN

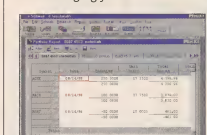


Better Than a Broker: Research and trade securities with E-Trade and e.Schwab. E-Trade (above) is the more affordable of the two and has an attractive Web site for retrieving quotes, placing trades, and managing your account.

A. **Place trades or download quotes** via hyperlinks.

B. The Resources column includes links to **free investment information.**

C. E-Trade alerts you to **updates on trades** and **expired orders.**



Portfolio Manager: One advantage e.Schwab has over E-Trade is a feature-rich but hard-to-use portfolio manager.

FILEBOX

e.Schwab

★★★

Verdict: Online trades from the biggest name in discount stocks.

Pros: Includes a built-in portfolio manager.

Cons: Too bad the portfolio manager is so hard to use.

Services: $39 per trade for up to 1,000 shares; 50 free live quotes per trade; other charges.

Price varies by service
Charles Schwab
(800) 362-6789, (800) 435-4000
Reader Service No. 710

E-Trade

★★★★

Verdict: The cheapest way to fly through security trades.

Pros: Less expensive than Schwab.

Cons: There's no broker to blame if you lose your shirt.

Services: $14.95 per trade for up to 5,000 shares on major exchanges; $19.95 for NASDAQ trades. Free delayed quotes.

Price varies by service
E-Trade Group
(800) 786-2575, (415) 842-8600
Reader Service No. 711

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

ISDN Internet Access for Everyone

ISDN is a fast ticket to the Internet, but giving everyone in your office his or her own ISDN line can cost thousands of dollars. A better solution? Trancell's WebRamp, Farallon's Netopia Internet Router, and Performance Technology's Instant Internet give everyone on an Ethernet network high-speed ISDN access through a single, affordable router. Unlike individual ISDN lines, they also offer fire-wall protection from unauthorized outside access.

ISDN On-ramp A good choice for small networks, Trancell's WebRamp delivers full 128Kbps ISDN speed for just $725. The complete setup, from ISDN connections to linking up everyone through Ethernet, is surprisingly painless—as long as you have your ISDN provider on the phone during the installation process, that is.

While Trancell includes a wizard-like setup program to step you through installation, ISDN lingo still isn't standardized so it's not always clear what information you need to give. The box also comes with eight 10Base-T ports in the back.

While its setup is easy, WebRamp offers only limited control over what areas of the Internet your employees can visit. And there's no way to monitor which sites they're accessing. Although WebRamp can handle an unlimited number of users, performance is best when it's serving fewer than a dozen clients.

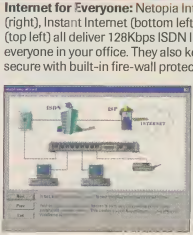
Platform Jumper Farallon's Netopia Internet Router is ideal for networks with both Macintosh and PC machines. While it wasn't as easy to set up as WebRamp, it does include several timesaving tricks. For example, you can assign Internet protocol addresses to every client on your network directly from the server rather than from each computer, using Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol. Farallon also offers a service called Up & Running, Guaranteed, which delivers a full year of technical support, consulting, and setup for $499. Unless you have a dedicated network manager, the extra cost is worthwhile.

Net Control Instant Internet, meanwhile, is the best solution for offices that want complete control over Internet access and are willing to pay for it. Using the router's included software, you can control all aspects of employees' time online, including when, where, and how long users connect to the Net—a useful way to keep ISDN bills in check.

Unlike the other routers, Instant Internet monitors exactly where on the Internet each person in your office has been—from specific Web pages to any newsgroup. It also supports NetWare's NetWare Directory Services standard, so importing the various access rights of your NetWare users and groups takes less time. The product's main drawback, however, is the price. At $4,195 it's among the most expensive networked-ISDN solutions available.

If you're looking to connect everyone on the network to the Internet via ISDN, all three of these routers offer an excellent and affordable alternative to investing in multiple ISDN lines. For small networks, WebRamp is the most affordable and easiest to install. Netopia Internet Router is the best option for networks using both Macintosh and PC systems. For complete Internet-access control and monitoring, however, Instant Internet is a pricey but unbeatable option. JACK LYON

Internet for Everyone: Netopia Internet Router (right), Instant Internet (bottom left), and WebRamp (top left) all deliver 128Kbps ISDN Internet access for everyone in your office. They also keep your LAN secure with built-in fire-wall protection.



ISDN Made Easy: Trancell's WebRamp makes ISDN setup easy. A wizard-like program guides you through installation and configuration.

FILEBOX

Instant Internet

★★★★

Verdict: High-speed ISDN network connections with complete Internet monitoring and access rights—for a price.

$4,195 est. street price
Performance Technology
(800) 327-8526
Reader Service No. 712

Netopia Internet Router

★★★

Verdict: Solid ISDN solution for cross-platform environments, but takes some time to set up.

$1,699 est. street price for unlimited PC and Mac users
Farallon Communications
(510) 814-5100
Reader Service No. 713

WebRamp

★★★★

Verdict: The least expensive way to give a small office fast Internet access.

$725 est. street price
Trancell Systems
(888) 493-2726
Reader Service No. 714

PHOTOGRAPH BY ARNOLD TOSKI JO

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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New! INTERNET: IBM Internet Connection 4.0

All-in-One Internet Suite

Netscape's Navigator and Microsoft's Internet Explorer own the lion's share of the Web browser market, but there *are* other options. For $39, IBM's Internet Connection (IC) 4.0 for Windows 3.1 and Windows 95 offers more than a dozen integrated modules for complete Internet access.

The centerpiece of IC 4.0 is IBM's Web browser, WebExplorer Mosaic. But while it can view most Web sites, WebExplorer can't handle multimedia-rich pages that use frames, Java, or Shockwave.

Like Netscape's Navigator, IC 4.0 includes separate e-mail and newsreader modules for communicating with people the world over. IC 4.0 also includes an FTP module for uploading and downloading files from one computer to another, and a Telnet application for connecting to certain computers that are linked to the Internet. IC's Viewer application supports most image formats, so you can view just about anything you come across. A chat application lets you connect to any Internet Relay Chat server on the Internet. IBM also throws in a few additional useful Internet utilities. One called Ping tests to see if your system or any other machine is connected to a specific network server. And TCPCheck helps troubleshoot potential errors in your TCP/IP stack and Internet connection.

If you need a basic Web browser and a solid collection of esoteric Internet utilities, IBM's Internet Connection is your answer. For the best in cutting-edge Web technology, however, Netscape's Navigator and Microsoft's Internet Explorer are still better choices. RICH SCHWERIN

I-Way Alternative: IBM's Internet Connection 4.0 offers a solid set of Internet tools, but it can't match Netscape's Navigator or Microsoft's Internet Explorer.

FILEBOX

Internet Connection 4.0

★★★

Verdict: Nothing flashy, just a basic Internet application suite.

Pros: Plenty of useful utilities; affordable price.

Cons: Doesn't support cutting-edge Web technologies like frames, Java, and Shockwave.

$39 est. street price
IBM
(800) 342-6672, (914) 765-1900
Reader Service No. 715

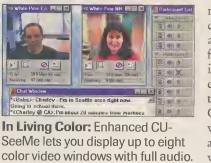
White Pine Enhanced CU-SeeMe 2.01

See You on the Web

Enhanced CU-SeeMe 2.01 from White Pine Software promises color video and audio teleconferencing on the Web with a very short learning period and no stiff upfront equipment costs. Sound too good to be true? If you're after a foolproof, one-stop solution, you won't find it on the Internet. But if you're willing to experiment, you'll be impressed by what you can do with a small investment in time and money.

Installation is surprisingly easy. CU-SeeMe automatically configures some digital cameras, including Connectix's popular QuickCam. The software displays up to eight video windows and supports unlimited audio and text chat sessions. Because bandwidth plays a big role in the usability of CU-SeeMe, however (you need at least a 28.8Kbps connection for video and audio), you may find that the video quality suffers when conferencing with more than two or three people. CU-SeeMe also comes with WhitePineBoard, a communal virtual whiteboard for sharing drawings, text, images, and other visual data.

At $69, color videoconferencing doesn't get any easier. It's not perfect for large-scale conferencing, but smaller operations can reap rewards right away. SCOT FINNIE



In Living Color: Enhanced CU-SeeMe lets you display up to eight color video windows with full audio.

FILEBOX

Enhanced CU-SeeMe 2.01

★★★★

Verdict: Affordable color videoconferencing via the Internet.

Pros: Easy-to-use, inexpensive color videoconferencing via any standard Web connection.

Cons: Performance suffers when conferencing with more than two or three people.

$69 if downloaded (at www.wpine.com), $89 est. street price
White Pine Software
(800) 241-7463, (603) 886-9050
Reader Service No. 716

Guide to the Ratings: ★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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Medalist Pro 2520	2.5 GB	11.0 msec	5,400 RPM	116 Mb/s	16.6 MB/s

Seagate

THE DATA TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

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Circle 168 on reader service card.

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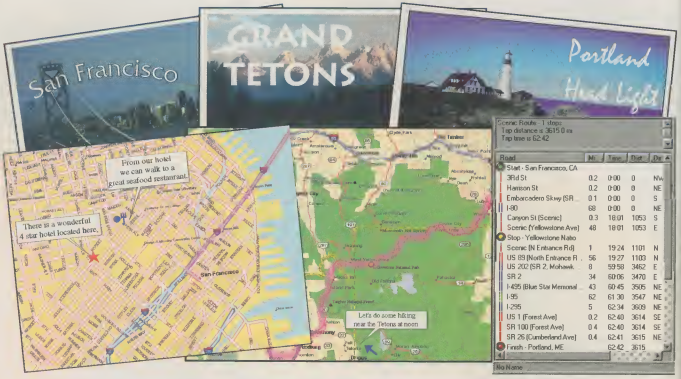

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DELORME

Circle 122 on reader service card.

Survival of the Fittest

BY RON WHITE

For optimum diffusion of your company's fiscal compendium . . . (Is everyone asleep? Good. That was just to make your boss think you're reading some business gobbledygook.) So you convinced your boss that you need a Pentium processor, a CD-ROM drive, and a 32-bit sound card to enhance your job performance. But *we* know you want them for games—blasting, smashing, twisting, crashing, pounding, crushing, bruising, trouncing, bursting, shrieking games! Well, here are some CDs that fulfill the potential of your killer hardware—at least until a 3-D graphics card and a virtual-reality helmet become your next "business investment."

DESCENT II ●●●●●

It's back—the stomach-turning, palm-sweating game where there's no up and no down, just 360 degrees of action. This DOS, multiplayer sequel (which runs under Windows 95 with just a few tweaks) adds 30 new levels and lots of new toys, such as an afterburner and 13 deadly weapons. But the best feature is Wingnut, a little robot that leads you through the bewildering maze of tunnels that serve as the setting for this shoot-'em-up game. You need both the weapons and the guide to survive in the only game that's more intense than id Software's Doom.

Descent II / Interplay Productions / (800) 468-3775 / $50 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 719*

Hold On to Your Seat: Try not to lose it in the action-packed Descent II.

ARCADE AMERICA ●●●●●

You've got to like any game that begins with California falling into the ocean. You'd think it'd be hard to top that, but Arcade America does, with a free-wheeling trip where everything from the Grand Canyon to the Alamo is a game setting. You control Joey, a character who spends most of his time with his finger in his belly button. The idea is to get Joey from the late, great California to Woodstock, New York, where he and his monster pals put on a concert—if he survives the trip. The humor is sophisticated enough to tickle adults, the animation is catchy enough for kids, and the game play isn't too difficult or too easy for either. The best thing about Arcade America is that it doesn't try to sneak in some dorky geography lesson. This is play for play's sake, and great play at that.

Arcade America / 7th Level / (800) 884-8863, (214) 468-8100 / $40 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 720*

GEARHEADS ●●●●●

In this game, you have on your side a bulldozer, an old robot with some faulty wiring, a cockroach, and a magician. The other team has a wrestling Santa Claus, a walking time bomb, a boxing kangaroo, and some chickens. Each of the characters (and there are more) has different strengths and weaknesses in the Gearhead arena. But they're all trying to do the same thing—get from one side of the screen to the other. The winner is the one whose characters are better able to block the opponent's and elude their defenses. Although this CD owes a debt to the engineering competitions of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on a PC it's an original game for a change, and one where smarts count more than eye-hand coordination.

Gearheads / Philips / (800) 883-3767, (310) 444-6600 / $40 list price / *Reader Service No. 721*

Chicken Alert! If Gearheads weren't so intense, it would be funny.

TRITRYST ●●●●

Let's see, bars made up of three objects fall from the top of the screen, and you have to move the bars

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID PERRY

●●●●● *Better than being a CEO.* ●●●● *Better than a corner office.* ●●● *Better than your own secretary.* ●● *Better than the mail room.* ● *Better than unemployment.*

Does This Look Familiar? Tritryst is an old favorite with a new twist.

so that they fit into a pattern without running out of screen space. And the CD name sounds so familiar. . . . OK, so it's a Tetris wanna-be. That doesn't mean it isn't decent fun. And if you're a Tetris fanatic, it's similar enough that you'll like it, but different enough that it won't bore you.

Tritryst / Virgin Interactive / (800) 874-4607, (714) 833-8710 / $27 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 722*

RAYMAN ●●●●

This game is Mario Brothers-on-acid. It's filled with strange, brightly colored plants and creatures you'd otherwise see only under the influence of chemicals. The lead character, Rayman, has hands and feet but no arms or legs connecting to them. (I believe I saw a few people like that once—back in my college days.) Despite having what most people would consider a disability, Rayman manages to run, jump, and climb in true Sonic the Hedgehog side-scrolling style through 70 surrealistic levels. The best feature: Rayman's opponents learn how you play and adjust their attacks accordingly.

Rayman / Ubi Soft / (800) 824-7638, (415) 464-4440 / $50 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 723*

REBEL ASSAULT II, THE HIDDEN EMPIRE ●●●

The question you have to ask about this *Star Wars* game sequel is, How ya gonna keep 'em down on the asteroid farm after they played id Software's Doom? Like its predecessor, Rebel Assault II, The Hidden Empire, is long on cinematic sequences that invoke its ancestral movies and short on 3-D free movements that mark the new generation of games. Like Doom, this two-disc DOS game has lots of shooting. But unlike Doom, where danger can come from anywhere—even from behind—Rebel Assault II is more like a carnival shooting gallery where ducks and bears poke out their heads and you shoot at them. Like Interplay Productions' Descent II and Microsoft's Fury, Rebel Assault II makes you fly through an obstacle course, but unlike those two games, the race course is locked in; you aren't free to fly just anywhere. Despite all this, the last time I saw Rebel Assault II it was a best-seller. That must say more about the cachet of *Star Wars* than the game itself.

Rebel Assault II, The Hidden Empire / LucasArts / (800) 985-8227, (415) 472-3400 / $55 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 724*

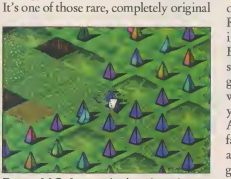
ZORK NEMESIS ●●●●

This is the grandchild of the granddaddy of them all—Zork, the text-only adventure of 15 years ago that lets your imagination fill in for the missing graphics. Along the evolutionary trail, Zork (still a DOS game) has taken on some genes from Broderbund's Myst, today's standard for the adventure game. In Zork Nemesis, which is distributed on three discs, you have to rescue four alchemists from everlasting hell—if you don't have anything else planned for the next 40 hours. The artwork looks beautiful enough to match anything you can imagine, and the puzzles are challenging. (I had a hard time solving them, and I even peeked at a secret cheat sheet.) If it's been a long time since you last "zorked," this is a good way to pick up the ball.

Zork Nemesis / Activision / (800) 477-3650 / $55 list price / *Reader Service No. 725*

ICEBREAKER ●●●●●

You want action and you want strategy? Then chill out with Icebreaker. It's one of those rare, completely original games that's also endlessly fascinating. You have to guide a little pyramid around the screen, shooting and smashing into other pyramids before some "hunter" pyramids catch up to you. Sometimes you fight. Sometimes you lead your pursuers to their demise by tricking them into bottomless pits. I know. It all sounds kind of strange. That's because it *is* strange, unlike anything you ever played before.



Pyramid Scheme: Icebreaker plays out in a strange but interesting way.

Icebreaker / Magnet Interactive / (800) 996-0011, (202) 625-7171 / $40 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 726*

WORMS ●●●

Sometimes you've gotta read the manual. And sometimes even that doesn't help. Usually I abandon anything as difficult as this DOS game. But it's so complex and so playful, I wasted the better part of a morning with it. The game pits tiny worms against each other—up to 16 at a time, each of which can be controlled by a different player. These are not your ordinary creepy crawlers. They're armed with bazookas, grenades, jackhammers, and the most dreaded of all—the exploding killer sheep! The idea is to move the worm warriors over a landscape, which is different each time you play, so they're in the best position to use their weapons. Mostly I just blew up my worm. You'll need to set aside some time to figure out Worms. But if you want something challenging, different, and with a sense of humor, this is it.

Worms / Ocean of America / (800) 483-8632 / $50 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 727*

EARTHWORM JIM ●●●●

What? More worms? Well, this one actually has more in common with Rayman than with Worms, despite having the the same slimy protagonists. Earthworm Jim (like Rayman) is a side-scrolling game, but like Worms it has a good sense of humor, whether Earthworm Jim is being chewed up by a junkyard dog or launching a cow into orbit. And for those who like a high mayhem factor, Jim is armed with a machine gun and enough rounds of ammo to make a government militia jealous.

Earthworm Jim / Activision / (800) 477-3650 / $50 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 728*

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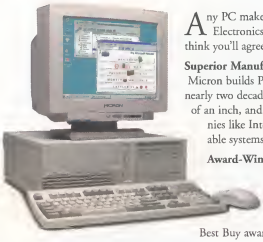

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Source: *PC World* Reliability & Service Monitor, May '20 - November '20, 1995

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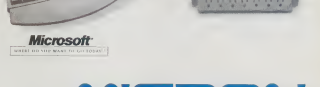

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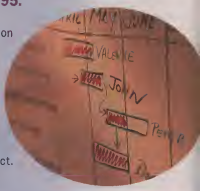


Graphical views let teammates visualize where the project is going.

With Microsoft Project you can display project data in ways that everyone can understand. Great-looking Gantt Charts integrate text, timelines and graphical bars so everyone can see start and finish dates, interdependencies and task assignments. Throughout your project, you can also use a Monthly Calendar report to share your plan in a format that's clear and easy to read. And since Microsoft Project shares many of the same key commands with other Office applications, it will be easy to create schedules and reports. But if at any time you need help, type in a question and the Answer Wizard gives you the information you need. Microsoft Project helps you illustrate every phase of your project so you and your team keep your goals in sight.

Microsoft

WHERE DO YOU WANT TO GO TODAY?™

To see an autodemo and more, go to http://www.microsoft.com/msoffice. Or call 800-426-9400.

*Microsoft Project works with Microsoft Mail, cc: Mail,™ Lotus Notes® and the Microsoft Exchange Inbox for Windows 95. ©1995 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. Microsoft, Windows, and the Windows logo are registered trademarks and the Windows Start logo and *Where do you want to go today?* are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. cc: Mail is a trademark of cc: Mail, Inc. a wholly owned subsidiary of Lotus Development Corporation. Lotus Notes is a registered trademark of Lotus Development Corporation.

Keep everyone moving on the same track with open lines of communication.

Microsoft Project is completely integrated with a wide range of e-mail systems* and Schedule+ so that with a single click, changes and additions are immediately distributed to and from teammates. Assignments, task changes, and progress can be communicated and updated without ever reentering information, so you save time and eliminate mistakes. And because Microsoft Project is a member of the Office family, sharing data between programs is easy. For example, you can start building a schedule by simply dragging a task list out of Microsoft Excel and dropping it directly into your Microsoft Project plan. You keep communication clear and information consistent and your project continues to move exactly the way you planned.

Now you can take full advantage of Windows 95.

Microsoft Project is the world's best selling project management software and now is optimized to work hand-in-hand with the 32-bit performance, advanced multitasking, and simplified user interface of the Windows® 95 operating system. Together, they help open the lines of communication. Together, they help you enhance the way you manage your projects.

Ultimate Web Pu

Top 200 tools for building the perfect Web site—now!

BY CHRISTOPHER LINDQUIST AND DANIEL WILL HARRIS

What?! You don't have a home page yet? You can bet everyone else does—especially your competitors. Not having a Web site is like not having a listing in the Yellow Pages. The Web is crawling with customers you'll never see if you don't make an impression on the Internet.

And you don't have to be a Fortune 500 company to get your message out on the Web. These days, anyone with 20 bucks and 20 minutes can set up a first-rate site and have instant access

Get Web-Wise:
With the latest services and software, you can build a site in less time—and for less money—than you think.

Instant Home Pages 114
Design your own Web page in minutes with online services and instant-page-creation sites on the Web. Some of the services are even free!

Web Publishers 120
New graphical Web-publishing tools make a stop-'em-dead custom page as easy as drag and drop.

Service or Server? 121
You've got your Web page—now where should you post it? Get the lowdown on renting site space or setting up your own server.

Designers for Hire 122
So maybe you don't want to design your own site. Here's how to find the perfect Web designer or consultant.

blishing Guide

to the world's fastest-growing market.

Of course, if you want a really *killer* page, you'll have to work harder—but not much. Today's best Web-page creation tools make it easier than ever to set up sites that'll have them coming back again and again. Don't have the time to design a page from scratch? We help you find a real pro to do it for you.

The truth is, with the right tools and the right help, it's simple to build the perfect Web page. Let us show you how.

Complete Toolbox:
Find everything you need among these 200 Web tools to build the Web site of your dreams.

Access Control	132	CGI/Scripting	136	Java	138	VRML	142
Audio/Video	132	File Converters	136	Misc. Internet	140	Browsers	142
Authoring	134	Graphics	136	Site Management	140	Servers	143
Browser Plug-ins	134	HTML Editors	138	Statistics	142		

Home Pages in an Instant

Got 45 minutes and a credit card? If so, you're halfway to your own home page on the World Wide Web. Believe it: Dozens of companies will give you an instant Web site for a painless price.

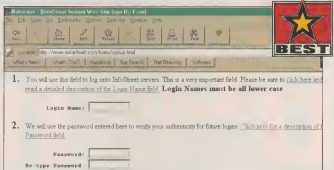
If you already subscribe to an online service you're in luck. America Online, CompuServe, and Prodigy offer free Web sites to their subscribers. But business users shouldn't expect lots of hand holding or special features like online order forms or connections to your corporate databases. (Prodigy is an exception—it's working on a set of business-oriented Web services that will go online shortly.) Prodigy also lets you rent more Web-page storage space as you need it, but America Online and CompuServe limit users to a rather meager 2MB and 1MB of storage, respectively, for each site.

If you have images of a megasite in your head, take a look at one of the dedicated Web-hosting services that offer instant pages for a monthly fee ranging from free to $85. (You can access these through an Internet service provider or your online service's Web-access feature.) Companies such as InfoStreet ask you to fill out a simple form, which they then use to automatically create your page and post it. Other hosts like Cyber Design scan in your company logo and build a templated page with little intervention from you. Most Web hosts offer Web design and maintenance services for an additional fee if you want to expand your site.

Be sure to evaluate your current and future needs before you jump into an instant Web site, however. Some services charge a fee each time you modify your page, so if you need to update it often (to reflect changing prices, for example) consider services that let you revise at no cost. If you want visitors to download files, you'll need an FTP site—something many instant services don't include. Also check services to see if their servers are connected with high-speed lines such as T1. A big pipe means potential customers will get to your site as quickly as possible, without annoying delays.

If you hit a ceiling (run out of space or need new technology, for example) and have to move to another service provider, be prepared for some trauma. Some Web-hosting services will forward visitors to your new site but others won't.

If you want to be on the Web, it's waiting for you. Just break out your credit card and get yourself a site.



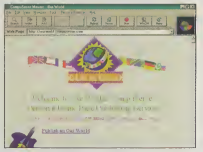
Just the Facts: Creating a Web site with InfoStreet is as easy as filling out an online form. All the work is done for you.

DO IT YOURSELF

THREE STEPS TO **CREATING A WEB SITE** ON COMPUSERVE

Get the Tools: Go to the Internet forum and select Home Page Wizard, then download the page-creation software.

Make the Page: The easy-to-use Home Page Publishing Wizard helps you instantly create a colorful, professional Web page.



Show It to the World: Click on the Publish button to go to the Our World site. Upload your page, and you're on the Web.

Top Home-Page Services

Product	Price*	Storage Supplied	Graphics Support	Forms-Based Page Creation	Pros	Cons	Verdict
PC Computing BEST **InfoStreet** (800) 780-8150 *Reader Service No. 835*	$22.50/ month	10MB	Yes	Yes	Free search engine, backup tools, and usage statistics; high-speed T1 connection.	Basic page created with form is quite plain; FTP site is not included in basic plan.	★★★★★ Tons of features and flexibility for a fair price.
America Online (800) 827-6364 *Reader Service No. 836*	$9.95/month (included in subscription)	2MB	Yes	Yes	Posting services advertise your page; FTP site included; fast TCP/IP connection.	Limited to 2MB of storage; requires service subscription.	★★★★ An ultraeasy and inexpensive way to make your first page.
CompuServe (800) 848-8990 *Reader Service No. 837*	$9.95/month (included in subscription)	1MB	Yes	No	Home Page Wizard creates great pages; FTP site included; fast TCP/IP connection.	Maximum storage of 1MB; must subscribe to service.	★★★★ Great Web tools at a great price—especially if you already subscribe.
Instant Technologies (800) 263-6741 *Reader Service No. 838*	$10 setup; $10/month ($20/month for FTP site)	1MB	Yes	Yes	Full set of services, including FTP site for an extra fee.	Basic forms-based pages are plain; only 1MB of storage allowed.	★★★★ A service that gives you a fast start and grows with your company.
Joe's CyberPost joe@joes.com *Reader Service No. 839*	Free	1 page	Yes**	Yes	Extensive forms-based editor; high-speed T1 connection.	Can't process orders from your page; FTP site not included.	★★★★ If one page is enough, this good-looking freebie's a steal.
Prodigy (800) 776-3449 *Reader Service No. 840*	$9.95/month (included in subscription)	1MB	Yes	No	Extra storage is available for one dollar per megabyte; FTP site included.	More complex than America Online or CompuServe; must subscribe to service.	★★★★ The most business-friendly of the major services.
SpryNet (800) 777-9638 *Reader Service No. 841*	$19.95/month (includes Internet account)	5MB	Yes	Yes	Uses same Home Page Wizard as CompuServe; FTP site included.	Can't process orders from your page.	★★★★ A full-featured, easy-to-use Web host for less than $20 a month.
Cyber Design (770) 998-2497 *Reader Service No. 842*	$35 for 1 page	1 page	Yes (limited)	No	You get to have your company logo on page; if your products don't sell, maintenance is free.	Basic pages have a templated look.	★★★ A quick way to get your corporate image on the Web.
Majon Int'l (800) 758-0102 *Reader Service No. 843*	$175 for 7 months	1 page	Yes**	Yes	Design form includes space for images, order forms, and a hit counter; T1 connection.	FTP site not included.	★★★ Great forms-based designer, but you can get more for the money.
Webez (310) 230-1960 *Reader Service No. 844*	$85/month	10MB	Yes	Yes	Plenty of storage and a slick forms-based page maker; high-speed T1 connection.	Much more expensive than InfoStreet for similar services.	★★★ Cool site provider, but the competition bests it on price.
World Yellow Pages Network (510) 524-4495 *Reader Service No. 845*	Free	1 page	No	Yes	No fee for the first page; high-speed T1 connection.	Basic page is plain; FTP site not included.	★★★ The pages don't look great, but you can't beat the price.
Wysiweb (609) 771-6705 *Reader Service No. 846*	Free	Unlimited	Yes**	Yes	Unique browser-based page creator supplies dozens of options.	Page creator might overwhelm novices; FTP site not included.	★★★ It's free, so what do you have to lose?

*DIRECT PRICE **IMAGE MUST ALREADY BE ON THE INTERNET

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

Home-Page Fast Track

Not everyone has the time to learn the ins and outs of creating and posting a stop-'em-dead home page. So instant home-page service is a great alternative. All you need is a bit of desire and a few spare moments. No tricky HTML to learn. No expensive hardware to set up. No exorbitant monthly fees. Just fill out a form, and your products are immediately advertised around the world.

But not all instant Web services meet every need. If you're just trying to sell a car or post a picture of your dog, consider a basic, easy-to-use service like the ones America Online or CompuServe offer. You're limited to 1MB of storage, but your page won't cost you any more than a standard subscription. Prodigy is more confusing to use, but it lets you rent more storage space as your needs grow—a feature that appeals to many business users. Don't forget that you can also use these services' Web-access tools to explore other instant–Web-page services.

If you're willing to spend $20 a month or even a bit more, Web-specific instant services offer more possibilities than the commercial online companies do. Many Web hosts provide fee-based consulting and site-maintenance services to help you adjust your pages as your needs grow. And the Web-centric site purveyors—such as InfoStreet and Instant Technologies—often provide access to technologies like forms-based ordering (via Common Gateway Interface scripting) to help you run a more efficient—and more profitable—online business.

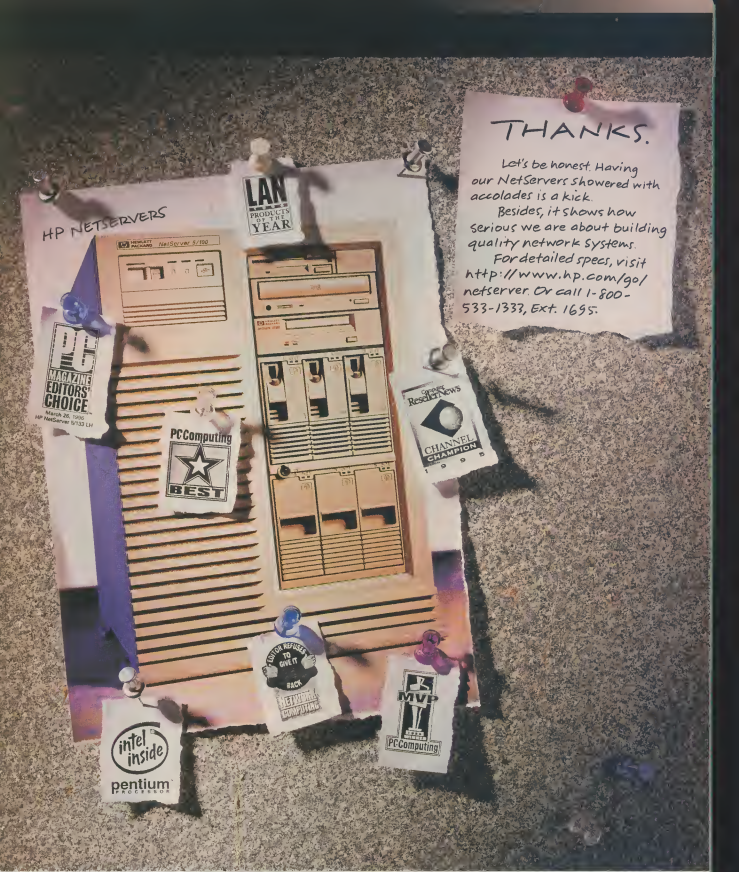
And if you still aren't sure whether the Web is where you need to be, try out one of the free site services such as Joe's CyberPost, World Yellow Pages Network, or Wysiweb. Unless you're an HTML whiz, your page will look fairly uninspired with these services. But if you include your e-mail address and list your site on a couple of search engines like Yahoo and WebCrawler, you'll be able to see if the Web is working for you.

So why aren't you on the Web already? With so many quick, easy, and inexpensive options, there's really no excuse.

CHRISTOPHER LINDQUIST

DECISION MAKER

CHOOSE THE BEST INSTANT **WEB SERVICE** FOR YOUR NEEDS



Pictured, the HP NetServer 6/100 LH. *Awards shown, PC Magazine* Editors' Choice HP NetServer 5/133 LH; *PC Computing* BEST HP NetServer 5/133 LH4; *LAN Magazine* "Products of the Year HP NetServer LS Series; *Network Computing* Editor Refuses to Give it Back Award HP NetServer 5/100 LS4; *PC Computing* MVP HP NetServer 5/100 LH; *Computer Reseller News* Channel Champion Award NetServer Series. The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corp. ©1996 Hewlett-Packard Company FPG453

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AST COMPUTER

Where things are HAPPENING

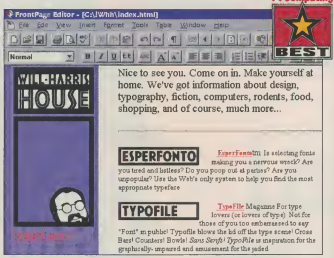
Circle 114 on reader service card.

Custom Web-Page Design

It's your company, so why let someone else dictate how your Web site looks and works? With the latest design and management tools you can build a first-class site just the way you want it. And you don't have to learn an encyclopedia full of HTML tags to do it.

Advanced HTML elements like tables, frames, and image maps set your page apart from the competition's, but these high-tech features often stump even hard-core HTML hackers. The latest page editors hide the HTML under slick drag-and-drop tools. Want to add an image? Just click on the filename and drag it into position on the page. Looking to make a hyperlink? Double-click and add the name of the appropriate Web address. When you're building a large site, editing the code is just the beginning. Once your site includes a dozen or more pages, the real challenge is keeping your links in order and your content up to date. A seemingly small change on one page could create a domino-like chain of events that will have users fuming over missing information and broken links.

Simple Site Management To handle numerous links and increasing content, a new crop of enhanced Web-site tools has emerged. More than just HTML editors, these applications offer advanced site-management features. These tools act like "page databases" and offer outline and graphical views that display your site's underlying architecture, as well as how pages and files are linked. The best of these new site designers let you track page links, find missing files, and even move entire pages without creating a frustrating string of broken links.



WYSIWYG Wonder: Microsoft's cleverly designed FrontPage makes it easy to create and manage a Web site.

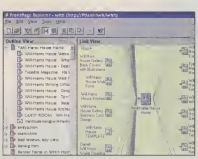
The best of the best of these new Web-site tools is Microsoft's FrontPage 1.1. (We reviewed a late beta version.) This intelligent tool corrects multiple missing links with a single update rather than a page at a time, saving you hours of tedious maintenance. To help shorten development time, FrontPage provides WebBots—prebuilt components that instantly add features like discussion groups and forms to a Web site without requiring programming. FrontPage also offers easy-to-comprehend graphical and outline views of your entire site, so management chores are less burdensome.

But FrontPage has one major flaw, at least for

Continued on page 122

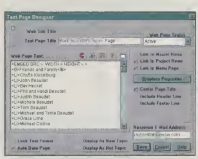
USABILITY

HIGHLIGHTS AND LOWLIGHTS OF WEB-PAGE **PUBLISHING TOOLS**



Scenic View: Drawing on the familiar Windows 95 Explorer, FrontPage offers side-by-side Web-site views: Outline and Link.

Behind the Scenes: True to its name, Backstage Designer Plus's real power lies beneath its sometimes confusing interface.



Nothing but Code: Designing a Web page with QuickSite is a job that's best suited for HTML programming veterans.

Top Web-Page Publishing Tools

Product	Price*	WYSIWYG	Converts Text Files	Converts Graphics	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Microsoft FrontPage 1.1 (beta 2) (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 847*	$149	Yes	Yes	Yes	Good management tools; WebBots make it easy to add advanced features.	Can't directly edit HTML from within the program.	★★★★ The easiest and most full-featured page-creation and site-management tool.
GNN GNNpress (800) 819-6112 *Reader Service No. 848*	Free	Partial	No	No	Easy to use; easy to post files on the Web.	Editor and browser display pages differently; limited site management.	★★★★ Basic management features, but you can't beat the price.
Macromedia Backstage Designer Plus (beta) (800) 326-2128 *Reader Service No. 849*	$79	Yes	No	No	Built-in database query support; PowerApplets quickly add high-end features.	Editor doesn't support table design or import word-processor files.	★★★★ A serious contender for heavy-duty site management.
DeltaPoint QuickSite (800) 446-6955 *Reader Service No. 850*	$80	No	No	No	Flexible object-oriented approach saves time.	Interface is difficult for users who aren't familiar with an object-oriented model.	★★★ A promising tool for HTML vets, but others might find it confusing.

*DIRECT PRICE.

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

Service or Server? The Connection Question

You have your site, so now it's time to post it for the world to see. But do you rent space from a Web host or set up your own server?

It's usually much easier—and less expensive—to rent space. In general $20 to $50 a month will buy you 5MB of disk storage and 500MB of data transmission (the data sent to users' browsers when they look at your pages). Once you establish an account, you send your files via FTP to a directory on the host's Web server. Within moments, anyone on the Web can see your pages.

You don't need your own Web server to get a domain name (such as Ziff-Davis Publishing's www.zd.com). Many hosts provide "virtual" domains for anyone renting space from them. A domain name costs $50 from the Internet-naming service InterNic, and most Web hosts charge only a small service fee to request a name for you.

But if you want complete control over your page content and security, running your own server offers some advantages. For example, you don't need to worry about whether your host is doing everything possible to protect your valuable information. You also get to decide how your site connects to other applications, such as corporate databases or customer-service programs. Such connections, when properly done, turn a simple Web-based ad into a revenue-generating machine. You can also test and add new files and features more quickly and with fewer restrictions because you don't have to go through a host's Webmaster. And unlike renting from a host, you don't have to share connection bandwidth with a host of other "virtual tenants."

But be warned: Running a server requires considerable financial and technical investments. Fast hardware and high-speed Internet connections don't come cheap. You also need a well-trained, dedicated staff to keep the system up and running.

If that sounds daunting, consider renting space at first. If it doesn't work out, you can always take your pages and post them on your own site later.

Best Way to the Web

	Pros	Cons
Service	• Inexpensive • No responsibility for hardware or connections • Hosts offer technical support	• Dependent on quality of host • Little control over configuration and security • Per-download charges add up over time
Server	• More control over configuration and security • No need to share bandwidth • Can connect to local corporate databases	• Expensive • Can be difficult to maintain • Requires dedicated staff

Total Solutions: Publishing and Management Tools That Do It All

Continued from page 120

veteran developers: You can't edit HTML code from within the program. Even so, many users will want to avoid the code anyhow.

Like Microsoft's FrontPage, GNN's GNNpress provides graphical and outline site overviews, though FrontPage's views are less tangled and easier to manipulate. And GNNpress makes it simple to post a file to the Web by just assigning the file an address.

Macromedia's Backstage Designer Plus (also reviewed in late beta form) takes a similar tack as FrontPage. Like the WebBots in Microsoft's FrontPage, Backstage Designer Plus's Macromedia PowerApplets simplify advanced page creation. This collection of Shockwave multimedia applications and JavaSoft's Java applets let you add features to your Web page without writing any HTML code. And Backstage Designer Plus includes tools for remote management, so you can update your site when you're away from the server.

If you're a programmer, you'll especially like the object-oriented style of DeltaPoint's QuickSite. This editor makes it easy to modify your site, and it attempts to free you of HTML coding by walking you through the design process with helpful wizards. But unlike the other products we tested—and Adobe's upcoming PageMill and SiteMill for Windows—QuickSite is far from WYSIWYG. So beginners might first want to try one of the easier products. But anyone who wants to get behind the scenes and play with some code will find QuickSite to their liking.

Free Trial Downloads One of the best features these products share is page publishers. Best of all, you can download free demo versions of all these page publishers. Check out *PC Computing*'s Web site at www.pccomputing.com for links to each. All four of these applications show that as the Web gets more complex—and more mature—site-management suites are replacing stand-alone HTML editors. In fact, HTML will soon move largely to the background like today's PostScript code, rarely seen by the typical user. And with the help of friendly, point-and-click WYSIWYG interfaces, Web-page creation and site-management tools are now accessible to everyone.

Hired Help: Bringing In an Expert

Sometimes it just doesn't pay to do things yourself. Creating a professional-quality Web site requires more time, technical skill, and artistic talent than many businesses have to spare. If that's your situation, it's time to turn to a Web designer or consultant.

Web designers cover the artistic side of Web-site creation, such as page layout, typographic design, and graphics production. Some designers produce the HTML code to create the actual pages, while others don't.

Web consultants, on the other hand, are more likely to have the technical skills necessary to take charge of your site's complete development and maintenance. Some consultants have staff designers and programmers to create your pages. At the very least, a good consultant should be able to lead you to competent designers and HTML coders.

Whichever way you go, be sure to take a long look at a potential designer's or consultant's online portfolio. And use your own computer and modem to view the sites: Pretty pages cached on a consultant's laptop might look great in the demo, but they won't tell you a thing about the site's actual performance. For example, large graphics appear enticing, but they can slow page access to a pace guaranteed to drive away customers. Also consider how well the sample sites work. Can you navigate through the site efficiently? Are the graphics attractive and pertinent? Do the images load quickly? Is the site's look appropriate to a client's products and services? If so, take the final step: Contact the clients whose sites are in the portfolio, and ask whether the designer or consultant came in on time and within budget.

Don't settle for the first hot designer or consultant who catches your eye. Shop around. Extensive lists of designers and consultants are available on Yahoo at www.yahoo.com or at DesignSphere at www.dsphere.net. Your Web site might be the only thing Net-cruising potential customers ever see about your company, so it pays to do things right the first time.

Questions to Ask a Pro

- What sites have you designed or produced, and where can I see them? (They should provide more than one example, and the examples shouldn't look similar. Make sure the sites represent the client more than the designer or consultant.)
- Do you have any experience in my field? (It's useful for the designer or consultant to understand your business so they create a site that's appropriate for what you do.)
- Will you arrange for a host to get a domain name and host the site?
- How long will the whole process take?
- How do you charge for the site design and production work? Hourly? On a project basis?
- May I speak with one of your previous clients?

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Document # 1109

Set Your Sites on the Web

Web-page creation tools are still in their infancy. But they'll soon mature and strengthen into the hottest application category since the spreadsheet. Despite their youth, a few products are leading the way to the point-and-click future of Web design.

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You can be sure many other players will jump into this exploding market. For example, Adobe is slated to release the Windows 95 versions of its popular PageMill and SiteMill tools this fall. Other even more powerful products are just around the corner, too. But if you're ready to stake a claim on the Web today, consider Microsoft's FrontPage the top choice for easing the process.

DANIEL WILL-HARRIS *is a freelance writer and graphic designer.*

DECISION MAKER

CHOOSE THE RIGHT **WEB-PAGE PUBLISHER** FOR YOUR NEEDS

1 Choose the factor that's most important.	2 Choose the next most important factor.	3 What else is important?	4 For your needs, the best product is...
Usability	Features	Site Control	Microsoft FrontPage
		Page Control	Microsoft FrontPage
	Price	Site Control	GNNpress
		Page Control	GNNpress
Features	Usability	Site Control	Microsoft FrontPage
		Page Control	Microsoft FrontPage
	Price	Site Control	Macromedia Backstage Designer Plus
		Page Control	Microsoft FrontPage
Price	Usability	Site Control	GNNpress
		Page Control	GNNpress
	Features	Site Control	GNNpress
		Page Control	GNNpress

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Whether you're using the Web to sell, to support, or to surf, once you make the investment in a homepage you've made a ment to your customers. A commitment ere when they need you for product info, l support, or sales.

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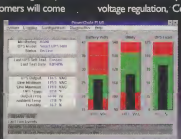

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1 Choose the factor that's most important. **2** Choose the next most important factor. **3** What else is important? **4** For your needs, the best product is. . .

Usability

Features

Price

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With Smart-UPS you get SmartBoost™ automatic voltage regulation, CellGuard™ intelligent battery management (for maximum battery life), hot-swappable user-replaceable batteries and SmartSlot™ custom configuration.

Check out our web solutions today. After all, there's one kind of "big hit" on your web site you don't want to tell your boss about.

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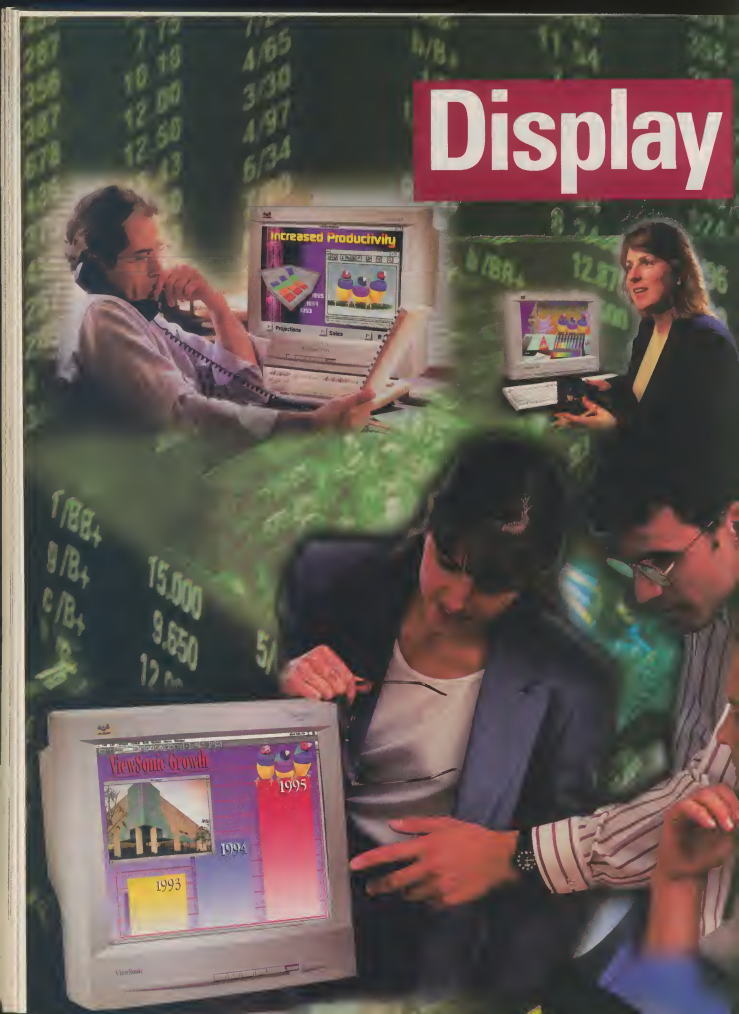

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Product	CRT Size/ Viewable	Dot Pitch Aperture Grille^	Max. NI Resolution	OnView Controls	TCO Certified	MSRP
ViewSonic 15G	15"/13.8"	0.28mm	1,280 x 1,024	Yes		$425
ViewSonic 15GS	15"/14.0"	0.28mm	1,280 x 1,024	Yes	Yes	$449
ViewSonic 15GA	15"/14.0"	0.27mm	1,280 x 1,024	Yes	Yes	$489
ViewSonic 17GS	17"/16.0"	0.27mm	1,280 x 1,024	Yes	Yes	$749
ViewSonic 17GA	17"/16.0"	0.27mm	1,280 x 1,024	Yes	Yes	$799
ViewSonic GT770	17"/15.9"	0.25mm*	1,280 x 1,024	Yes		$899
ViewSonic 20G	20"/18.4"	0.28mm	1,600 x 1,200		Yes	$1,395
ViewSonic GT800	20"/19.1"	0.26mm*	1,600 x 1,200	Yes		$1,899
ViewSonic G810	21"/20.0"	0.25mm	1,600 x 1,200	Yes		$1,745

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The ultimate in high performance monitors, the ViewSonic GT770 and GT800 blend aperture grille mask technology and the vertically flat SonicTron™ screen to produce the sharpest, most brilliant colors from center to corner. The high contrast images are the richest and brightest available today.

ViewSonic is the price/performance leader in the monitor industry. Our monitors meet or exceed the latest environmental and safety standards, including the strict TCO certification, and are backed by a limited 3-year warranty on CRT, parts and labor... the best in the business. Plus your company can take advantage of our special 48-hour Express Exchange℠ Service option.

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These days your office can be anywhere you do business. Whether you're downtown or in your dining room, you need to stay in touch. That's why Fujitsu Microelectronics offers a complete family of integrated, world-class PC Cards, to give you immediate access to vital information while in the office or on the road.

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200 Killer Web Tools

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Access Control	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Microsystems Software Cyber Patrol (800) 489-2001 *Reader Service No. 851*	$50	Easy to customize; LAN-based versions available.	Might accidentally block some sites that aren't questionable.	Inexpensive and user-friendly.
Webster Network Strategies WebTrack (800) 967-0066 *Reader Service No. 852*	$495 to $11,995	Powerful and flexible business-oriented blocking tools.	Runs only on Unix servers.	A great tool to control employee surfing.

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More Cool Tools

J.D.K. Software Internet Filter / jeffk@awinc.com / $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 853*

Netscape Communications Proxy Server / (415) 937-3777 / $995 direct / *Reader Service No. 854*

Solid Oak Software Cybersitter / (800) 388-2761 / $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 855*

Spyglass SurfWatch / (800) 458-6600 / $50 direct / *Reader Service No. 856*

Trove Investment Net Nanny / (800) 340-7177 / $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 857*

Audio/Video	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Progressive Networks RealAudio Server (800) 230-5975 *Reader Service No. 858*	$495	Sends live or recorded sound directly over the Web.	If you want this audio, you have to be willing to pay for it.	A great way to add any kind of sound to your site.
Voxware ToolVox Encoder (609) 497-1212 *Reader Service No. 859*	Free	Compresses voice files (WAV or AIFF) at a 53:1 ratio; no special server required.	No phone-based technical support.	Cheap, easy sound for the Web.

*DIRECT PRICE

More Cool Tools

Ember Software Wanvas / (925) 946-8342 (fax) / $10 direct / *Reader Service No. 860*

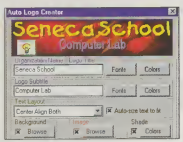
Enhanced Cu-SeeMe 2.0.1 / www.wpine.com / $69 direct / *Reader Service No. 861*

Open2u ActionStudio / www.open2u.com/action / $250 direct / *Reader Service No. 862*

PC Computing Best

Simple Sound: Add streaming audio to your Web pages without even trying with ToolVox Encoder.

Not Just Browsing: Netscape's Navigator Gold browser lets you edit pages without exposing you to raw HTML code.



Pages in an Instant: Create a home page instantly using the templates in Forman's Interactive Internet Creator.

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Internal Diskette Drive

Detachable lithium ion battery also functions as a handle and a keyboard tilt.

Choice of SVGA displays from 11.3" CSTN to 11.8" CTFT.

Programmable keys provide one-touch access to mobile applications.

Up to 133 MHz Pentium® processor, hard drives up to 1 GB.

I want a notebook that's as flexible as I am. I want it to be full function with a long-lasting battery.

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Authoring	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Microsoft FrontPage 1.1 (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 847*	$149	Good management tools; WebBots make it easy to add advanced features.	Can't directly edit HTML from within the program.	The easiest, most full-featured page-creation and site-management tool around.
Netscape Navigator Gold 2.0 (415) 937-3777 *Reader Service No. 863*	$79	Common-sense tools make it easy to browse Web pages or create your own.	Not as feature-rich as some dedicated development tools.	Browse the Web or build your own pages with this top-notch combo tool.

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More Cool Tools

Corel Web.Designer / (800) 772-6735 / $99 direct / *Reader Service No. 864*

DeltaPoint QuickSite / (800) 446-8855 / $80 direct / *Reader Service No. 850*

Forman Interactive Internet Creator 3.0 / (800) 299-9638 / $189 direct / *Reader Service No. 861*

FutureTense Texture / (508) 263-5480 / $495 direct / *Reader Service No. 866*

GNN GNNpress / (800) 819-6112 / free / *Reader Service No. 848*

LinkStar Site Launcher / (954) 426-5465 / free / *Reader Service No. 867*

Macromedia Backstage Designer Plus (beta) / (800) 326-2128 / $79 direct / *Reader Service No. 849*

Next Software WebObjects / (800) 879-6398 / free / *Reader Service No. 868*

ParcPlace-Digitalk VisualWave / (800) 759-7272 / $4,995 direct / *Reader Service No. 869*

Browser Plug-ins	Price	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Macromedia Shockwave (800) 326-2128 *Reader Service No. 870*	Free	Adds animation and sound; supported by most browsers.	Slow load times.	The best all-in-one multimedia plug-in.
Progressive Networks RealAudio (800) 230-5975 *Reader Service No. 871*	Free	Supports playback of live and prerecorded sound over the Web.	The slower your connection, the worse your sound.	A quick way to add some noise to a silent site.

More Cool Tools

Adobe Acrobat Amber / (800) 272-3623 / free / *Reader Service No. 872*

The BrainStorm Company Webmaster 3.0 / (213) 969-2455 / $9 direct / *Reader Service No. 873*

Doesn't Byte Software Esig95 / dbs@micron.net / $8 direct / *Reader Service No. 874*

DOSNet / users.com/jorman / free / *Reader Service No. 875*

Dr. Jack's HTMLview / registration@drjack.com / $10 direct / *Reader Service No. 876*

Indexer / spider.compart.fi/~anders / free / *Reader Service No. 877*

Integrated Internet FTP / iiftp@aquila.com / $25 direct / *Reader Service No. 878*

InterVu MPEG Player / into@intervu.com / free / *Reader Service No. 879*

Jasc Media Center / (800) 622-2793 / $39 direct / *Reader Service No. 880*

Netscape Provider Maintenance / MWolf@1-Online.de / $20 direct / *Reader Service No. 881*

Off-Site Labs Cache Master / os@neosoft.com / $20 direct / *Reader Service No. 882*

Open2u Action / www.open2u.com/action / $25 direct / *Reader Service No. 883*

Qian Shareware Animator / markqian@amnet.com / free / *Reader Service No. 884*

Sirsi Vision / (205) 922-9825 / free / *Reader Service No. 885*

Software Publishing ASAP WebShow / (800) 336-8360 / free / *Reader Service No. 886*

Totally Hip Software Sizzler (beta) (604) 685-6525 / free / *Reader Service No. 887*

Troy Rollo TwinSock 2.0 / troy@cbme.unsw.edu.au / free / *Reader Service No. 888*

Vector Development Dunce Dial-Up Networking Connection Enhancement / (913) 271-2175 / free / *Reader Service No. 889*

Visual Components Formula One/Net / (800) 884-8665 / free / *Reader Service No. 890*

Web Server Search / (330) 263-4320 / $60 direct / *Reader Service No. 891*

Wintronix Keep Goin' / (801) 532-4865 / $9 direct / *Reader Service No. 892*

WSTBar95 1.2 / fdzg@infinet.com / $10 direct / *Reader Service No. 893*

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Shock Your System: Add great sound, clever animation, and interactivity to your site with Macromedia's Shockwave.

Did You Hear That? With Progressive Networks' RealAudio you can listen to live and prerecorded audio broadcasts.

More to See: Adobe's Acrobat Amber turns graphically rich documents into knock-'em-dead Web pages.

Convert the Masses: Get your graphic images into Web-site shape with Alchemy Mindworks' Graphic Workshop.

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- 3 Lithium Ion Batteries
- 16-Bit Stereo Sound
- Dual Speakers
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Can run internal diskette drive simultaneously with CD-ROM.

Dual speakers integrated into the CD base provide deep, crisp 16-bit stereo sound.

This base is detachable and houses the CD-ROM.

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Web Tools: CGI/Scripting, File Converters, and Graphics

CGI/Scripting

	Price	Pros	Cons	Verdict
CGIHTML eekim@fas.harvard.edu *Reader Service No. 894*	Free	Describes a set of C routines for creating Common Gateway Interface programs; includes tutorial and samples.	Only C programmers need apply.	Build your own CGI apps from scratch.
CGI.pm lstein@genome.wi.mit.edu / *Reader Service No. 895*	Free	Uses objects to create Web fill-out forms on the fly and to parse their contents.	You've got to love programming languages to use this one.	A powerful if complicated CGI-forms package.

More Cool Tools

BIPED / dunlop@eol.ists.ca / free / *Reader Service No. 896*

CGIWrap / nneul@umr.edu / $10 to $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 897*

Digital Clock / sammart@direct.ca / $5 direct / *Reader Service No. 898*

Endless Visions WebCount 2.0 / joshua@ni.net / $15 direct / *Reader Service No. 899*

Hip Communications Perl for Win32 / (604) 606-4600 / free / *Reader Service No. 450*

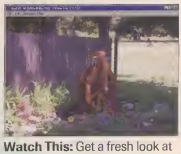
Hip Communications Web Kit / (604) 606-4600 / free / *Reader Service No. 451*

O'Reilly & Associates Cgi32.bas / (800) 998-9938 / free / *Reader Service No. 452*

O'Reilly & Associates NT Perl / (800) 998-9938 / free / *Reader Service No. 453*

O'Reilly & Associates Perl CGI Library / (800) 998-9938 / free / *Reader Service No. 454*

Fast Transit: InfoAccess's HTML Transit takes your old documents and converts them into Web-ready form.



Watch This: Get a fresh look at your graphic files with MMedia Research's LView Pro file converter.

File Converters

	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Alchemy Mindworks Graphic Workshop (800) 263-1138 *Reader Service No. 455*	$40	Converts almost any graphic format to another graphic format.	Some graphic formats will not convert, including CorelDraw 6.0.	A superior graphics file converter.
InfoAccess HTML Transit (800) 344-9737 *Reader Service No. 456*	$495	Automatically converts your existing documents into HTML format.	Doesn't work equally well on all table conversions.	Give new Web life to your piles of old files.

*DIRECT PRICE

More Cool Tools

Advantage HTML Processor / joe@vantage.demon.co.uk / $20 direct / *Reader Service No. 457*

DBF to HTML / andyhosk@aol.com / $20 direct / *Reader Service No. 458*

ForeFront ForeHTML / (800) 357-8507 / $169 direct / *Reader Service No. 459*

Microsoft HTML Driver / (800) 426-9400 / free / *Reader Service No. 460*

MMedia Research LView Pro 1.D / (954) 458-9077 / $30 direct / *Reader Service No. 461*

Quadralay WebWorks Publisher / (512) 719-3399 / $895 direct / *Reader Service No. 462*

Quarterdeck HiJaak 95 / (800) 683-6696 / $50 direct / *Reader Service No. 463*

SkiSoft Web Publisher Professional / (800) 662-3622 / $990 direct / *Reader Service No. 464*

Wayne Software HTMStrip / bguthrie@nmaa.org / free / *Reader Service No. 465*

Colorful Performer: Want a custom color for that page background? Color Machine mixes hues for you.

Graphics

	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Color Machine elizabeth.hamilton@uc.edu *Reader Service No. 466*	Free	Makes adding color to your HTML-page backgrounds child's play.	No documentation or online help.	Quick and colorful pizzazz for your Web site.
Group 42 WebImage (800) 520-0042 *Reader Service No. 467*	$40	Creates image maps and edits GIF, JPG, and the new PNG format.	Not a one.	A must-have tool for any Webmaster.

*DIRECT PRICE

PC Computing Best

On the Map: Creating classy and functional image maps is easy with Group 42's WebImage.

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Slimline

5.1 Lbs.

1.5" Thick

Memory expandable up to 48 MB.

Touchpad can be replaced by an optional trackball.

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I travel light, real light. I don't need a floppy. And I want it all at around 5 lbs.

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Web Tools: HTML Editors and Java

More Cool Tools

Boutell.Com Mapedit / boutell@boutell.com / $25 direct / *Reader Service No. 468*

Corel Web.Gallery / (800) 772-6735 / $69 direct / *Reader Service No. 469*

DigitalStyle WebSuite Standard Edition / (800) 541-1175 / $299 direct / *Reader Service No. 470*

Game Tool Technologies Colorwiz / info@gttweb.com / $10 direct / *Reader Service No. 471*

IntelliTech Systems BIC Wiz / intellitec@aol.com / free / *Reader Service No. 472*

Map This / tc@galadriel.ecaetc.ohio-state.edu / free / *Reader Service No. 473*

Maximized Software Color Browser / info@maximized.com / free / *Reader Service No. 474*

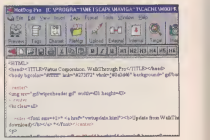
NetCarta CyberPilot Pro / (408) 461-8920 / $35 direct / *Reader Service No. 475*

Net-Scene PointPlus / (210) 366-8878 / $299 direct / *Reader Service No. 476*

Search / thiver1@canuck.com / free / *Reader Service No. 477*

Totally Hip Software WebPainter / (604) 685-6525 / $50 direct / *Reader Service No. 478*

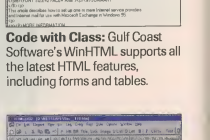
Vector Development Color Picker for HTML / (913) 271-2175 / free / *Reader Service No. 480*



HTML Hound: Anawave's HotDog Professional contains all the tools that hard-core HTML programmers need.

HTML Editors	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Anawave HotDog Professional 2.0 (800) 711-6030 *Reader Service No. 481*	$80	Powerful editor; great online help.	Currently not a 32-bit application.	The leader of the HTML-editing pack.
SoftQuad HoTMetaL (416) 239-4801 *Reader Service No. 482*	Free	Offers massive design control, file importing, and an excellent HTML tutorial.	Some image truncation may occur in certain situations.	Tons of tools and powerful features in one package.

*DIRECT PRICE



Code with Class: Gulf Coast Software's WinHTML supports all the latest HTML features, including forms and tables.

More Cool Tools

DerekWare HTML Author / derek@shell.masterpiece.com / free / *Reader Service No. 483*

DS Products QRead for Windows 95 2.0 / (800) 242-4775 / $23 direct / *Reader Service No. 484*

EdWin 2.0 / (803) 699-8385 / $35 direct / *Reader Service No. 485*

Eon Solutions EasyHelp/Web / eon@cix.compulink.co.uk / $140 direct / *Reader Service No. 486*

FLFSoft HTML Builder 1.1 / (713) 524-6394 / $30 direct / *Reader Service No. 487*

GT Technologies Quadratura 1.4 / (800) 306-0036 / $35 direct / *Reader Service No. 488*

Gulf Coast Software WinHTML / (800) 928-8679 / $25 to $48 direct / *Reader Service No. 489*

HTML Assistant Pro for Windows / (800) 348-1422 / free / *Reader Service No. 490*

InContext Spider 1.1 / (800) 263-0127 / $99 direct / *Reader Service No. 491*

Informatik WebPen / (810) 640-0339 / $19 direct / *Reader Service No. 492*

Internet Software Technologies HTMLed32 / (508) 364-2540 / $29 direct / *Reader Service No. 493*

Q&D Software Development WebMania Pro 1.5a / (201) 635-1824 / $50 direct / *Reader Service No. 494*

Quarterdeck WebAuthor 2.0 / (800) 354-3222 / $50 direct / *Reader Service No. 495*

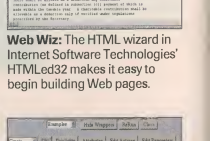
ReVoL Web Worker 1.2a / jon@junk.demon.co.uk / $19 direct / *Reader Service No. 496*

Stoopid Software Gomer HTML Editor 1.5 (beta) / gomer@clever.net / $15 direct / *Reader Service No. 497*

WebEd Suite for Windows / kread@ozemail.com.au / free / *Reader Service No. 498*

WebEdit 2.0 / www.nesbitt.com / $80 direct / *Reader Service No. 499*

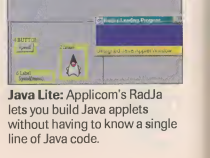
Web Media Publisher Pro R6 / software@wbmedia.com / $30 direct / *Reader Service No. 500*



Web Wiz: The HTML wizard in Internet Software Technologies' HTMLed32 makes it easy to begin building Web pages.

Java	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Applicom Software Industries RadJa info@radja.com *Reader Service No. 560*	$39	You don't have to know Java—just point and click.	You're limited to whatever RadJa knows how to create; difficult to set up.	A terrific graphical Java performer.
JavaSoft Java Developers Kit 1.0.2 java.sun.com *Reader Service No. 561*	Free	Latest version has a basic debugger; lots of examples included.	Debugger is command-line only; Unix developers will feel more at home than anyone else.	The original Java compiler.

*DIRECT PRICE



Java Lite: Applicom's RadJa lets you build Java applets without having to know a single line of Java code.

PC Computing Best

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- Virtual Office
- SpeedPaq 288 Telephony Modem
- Full Duplex Speakerphone*
- Answering Machine*
- Fax Machine†
- Internet Ready

Just Connect Communication Software creates a point-and-click virtual office.

Speakerphone operates via phone line or cellular phone.

The Compaq PremierSound audio system. 16-bit stereo sound in any configuration.

I want sound. Big, big sound. I want a full duplex speakerphone so they can hear me in Texas.

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COMPAQ

*Requires Compaq SpeedPaq 288 Telephony Modem, available in Summer 1996. †Requires modem.

Web Tools: Miscellaneous Internet and Site Management

More Cool Tools

Anawave Egor / (800) 711-6030 / $80 direct / *Reader Service No. 562*

Dimension X Liquid Motion / (888) 369-9292 / $140 direct / *Reader Service No. 563*

HORB / hirano@etl.go.jp / free / *Reader Service No. 564*

Infospace WebCharts 1.0 / (888) 463-6772 / $10 direct / *Reader Service No. 565*

JavaMaker / hochol@saturn.sait.samsung.co.kr / free / *Reader Service No. 566*

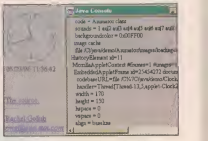
ModelWorks Software JPad Pro 1.0 / cmurphy@modelworks.com / $29 direct / *Reader Service No. 567*

Open Solutions CafeBabe32 2.0 / OpenSollnc@aol.com / $25 direct / *Reader Service No. 568*

SunSoft Java WorkShop 1.0 / (800) 786-7638 / $295 direct / *Reader Service No. 569*

Symantec Café / (800) 441-7234 / $130 direct / *Reader Service No. 570*

Symantec Just-in-Time / (800) 441-7234 / free / *Reader Service No. 571*

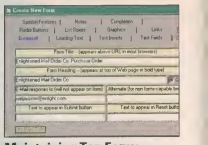


No Decaf Here: JavaSoft's Java Developers Kit has everything you need to create Java applets.

Misc. Internet

	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Corel InternetMania (800) 772-6735 *Reader Service No. 572*	$19	Utility pack includes CorelFTP, Personal Web Server, Home Page Author, Lycos Web Search, Web Catalog, NewsScan, and QuoteScan.	You probably won't need all the features—but for $19 who cares?	An eclectic and useful mix of tools for any Web-tech lover.
Q&D Software Development WebForms 2.1 (201) 635-1824 *Reader Service No. 573*	$22 to $35	Create extensive HTML forms with text, list boxes, and more.	Standard version doesn't directly import from POP3 mail servers.	A fast way to get useful information out of your users.

*DIRECT PRICE



Maintaining Top Form: Q&D Software Development's WebForms helps you build impressive Web-based forms.

More Cool Tools

Berkeley Systems Web.Max / (800) 344-5541 / $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 574*

Brooke Hedrick WebDigger 1.0 / brookehd@aol.com / free / *Reader Service No. 575*

Corel Web.Data / (415) 772-6735 / $99 direct / *Reader Service No. 576*

Excite for Web Servers / (415) 943-1200 / free / *Reader Service No. 577*

InContext WebAnalyzer 1.0 / (800) 263-0127 / $140 direct / *Reader Service No. 578*

Lotus InterNotes Web Publisher 2.0 / (800) 346-1305 / $2,995 direct / *Reader Service No. 579*

Netscape LiveWire Pro / (415) 937-3777 / $695 direct / *Reader Service No. 580*

NetScheme Software InterMart Toolkit / (508) 480-0877 / $695 direct / *Reader Service No. 581*

O'Reilly & Associates PolyForm / (800) 998-9938 / $99 direct / *Reader Service No. 582*

O'Reilly & Associates WebBoard / (800) 998-9938 / $99 direct / *Reader Service No. 583*

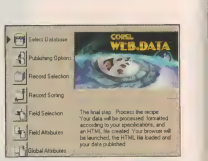
Sybase web.sql / (800) 792-2731 / $695 direct / *Reader Service No. 584*

Verity Topic Search for MIIS / (415) 960-7600 / free / *Reader Service No. 585*

Site Management

	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
CyberSpyder Link Test thaman@magi.com *Reader Service No. 586*	$25	Helps system administrators test and verify HTML links.	Currently supports only HTTP URLs.	A great way to make sure every link on your site still exists.
Informatik WebParse (610) 640-0339 *Reader Service No. 587*	$19	Scan through e-mail files for important data from Web-response forms.	Incompatible with some text formats.	An inexpensive yet automated way to collect data from your site users.

*DIRECT PRICE



Getting to the Good Stuff: Convert your database information into Web-publishable form with Corel's Web.Data.

More Cool Tools

AB Software HTML Check / (617) 762-8617 / free / *Reader Service No. 588*

Ipswitch What'sUp / (617) 676-5700 / $145 direct / *Reader Service No. 589*

Woodruff Software Systems WinFossil 1.11 / (206) 888-2404 / $15 direct / *Reader Service No. 590*

Spyder Web: Check all your links and automatically find any broken threads with CyberSpyder's Link Test.

PC Computing Best

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Web Tools: Statistics, VRML, Browsers, and Servers

Statistics	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
e.g. Software WebTrends (503) 294-7025 *Reader Service No. 591*	$299	Great collection of tools; affordable price.	Not as robust as Intersе's Market Focus 2.	Tells you everything that's happening on your site.
Intersе Market Focus 2 (408) 732-0932 *Reader Service No. 592*	$695 to $3,495	Extensive set of data-collection tools.	Expensive and complex.	A serious tool for intersе Web-site data collection and analysis.

*DIRECT PRICE

More Cool Tools

Brooke Hedrick DStats 1.5 / brookeh6@aol.com / $25 direct / *Reader Service No. 593*

Huntana WebStat Explorer / webmaster@huntana.com / $45 direct / *Reader Service No. 594*

Huntana WebStat Graphic / webmaster@huntana.com / $50 direct ($30 with WebStat Explorer) / *Reader Service No. 595*

Huntana WebStat Plus / webmaster@huntana.com / free to WebStat users / *Reader Service No. 596*

Jumbo GraphicTrak / webmaster@jumbo.com / free / *Reader Service No. 597*

O'Reilly & Associates VBStats / (800) 998-9938 / free / *Reader Service No. 598*

SingleStat 2.11 for WebSite / derek@connectnet.net.au / free / *Reader Service No. 599*

VRML	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Caligari Pioneer (800) 351-7620 *Reader Service No. 600*	$99	You can create almost any shape for your Web site.	Difficult for novices.	Take the time to learn it, and you'll be on your way to building 3-D images.
Microsoft ActiveVRML (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 611*	Free	Lets you easily cruise through 2-D and 3-D worlds.	Works only with Microsoft's Internet Explorer.	If you like the Web, you'll love ActiveVRML's 2-D and 3-D scenes.
Netscape Live3D (415) 937-3777 *Reader Service No. 612*	Free	Included in Navigator 3.0.	Navigation interface takes some time to learn.	Turns your browser into a virtual-world cruising tool.

*DIRECT PRICE

More Cool Tools

Chaco Communications VR Scout 1.3 / (408) 996-1115 / $29 direct / *Reader Service No. 613*

IDS VRealm Builder 1.0 / (912) 236-4374 / $499 direct / *Reader Service No. 614*

Paragraph Int'l Virtual Home Space Builder 1.0 / (800) 810-0055 / $50 direct / *Reader Service No. 615*

Sense8 World Up / (415) 331-6318 / $3,500 direct / *Reader Service No. 616*

Sony Pictures Imageworks CyberPassage / (800) 222-7669 / free / *Reader Service No. 617*

SuperScape Viscape / (415) 812-9380 / free / *Reader Service No. 700*

Virtus WalkThrough Pro 2.5 / (800) 847-8871 / $400 direct / *Reader Service No. 701*

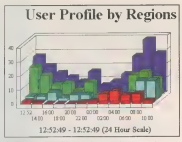
VRML Express 1.0 for Windows 95/NT / cmurphy@modelworks.com / $29 direct / *Reader Service No. 702*

Browsers	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Microsoft Internet Explorer 3.0 (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 703*	Free	Easy interface; looks and works like other Windows 95 apps.	Still doesn't support all the technology in Netscape's Navigator.	It does almost everything, Microsoft supports it, and it's free.
Netscape Navigator 3.0 (415) 937-3777 *Reader Service No. 717*	$49	You can be sure that all cutting-edge technology will be compatible.	Microsoft has it beat on price and usability.	If you want the browser used by more people than any other, this is it.

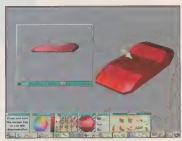
*DIRECT PRICE

PC Computing Best

It's in the Mail: Informatik's WebParse lets you pull useful information out of e-mail messages sent to your site.



What's Going On? Keep tabs on everything happening on your site with the statistics tools in e.g. Software's WebTrends.



VRML Veteran: Caligari's Pioneer lets you construct your own 3-D worlds to publish on the Web.

Get Active: Create and view interactive 2-D and 3-D environments with Microsoft's ActiveVRML developer's kit.

More Cool Tools

Attachmate Emissary 1.1 / (800) 426-6283 / $89 direct / *Reader Service No. 718*

NCSA Mosaic 2.1.1 / mosaic-w@ncsa.uiuc.edu / free / *Reader Service No. 729*

Quarterdeck Internet Suite 2.0 / (800) 683-6696 / $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 730*

Spry Internet in a Box / (800) 777-9638 / $40 direct / *Reader Service No. 743*

Symantec Cyberjack 7.0.3 / (800) 441-7234 / $49 direct / *Reader Service No. 744*

Servers	Price*	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Microsoft Internet Information Server (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 766*	Free	Price is right—*free* with NT Server.	Requires $999 NT Server (competing apps can run on the less-costly NT Workstation); lacks proxy support.	Speedy performance plus strong NT security integration and ODBC support.
O'Reilly & Associates WebSite Professional (800) 998-9938 *Reader Service No. 767*	$350	Inexpensive, feature packed, easy to use—and it runs under Windows 95.	Pricing isn't as attractive since Microsoft started giving away its Internet Information Server.	An easy, low-cost way for anyone to start a Web site.

*DIRECT PRICE.

More Cool Tools

Alibaba WWW Server / sales@csm.co.at /$99 direct / *Reader Service No. 802*

Apache-SSL 1.05 / apache@apache.org / free (noncommercial); $495 (commercial), direct / *Reader Service No. 803*

Arcane Software Vermillion FTP Daemon 1.08 / mbk@jhu.edu / $30 direct / *Reader Service No. 804*

Beyond Software EnterpriseWeb/VM / (408) 496-1920 / $6,500 to $55,000 direct / *Reader Service No. 805*

Cat Soft Serv-U 2.0b / RB5@acpub.duke.edu / $25 direct / *Reader Service No. 827*

Denicomp Systems Winsock RSHD / 71612.2333@compuserve.com / $35 direct / *Reader Service No. 828*

European Microsoft Windows NT Academic Center (EMWAC) HTTP Server v0.981 / emwac@ed.ac.uk / free / *Reader Service No. 829*

Firefox Internet Document Server / (800) 230-6090 / $995 direct / *Reader Service No. 830*

Frontier Technologies SuperWeb Server for Windows NT / (800) 929-3054 / $795 direct / *Reader Service No. 831*

FTP Software Esplanade / (800) 286-7369, ext. 75 / $289 direct / *Reader Service No. 832*

GNN GNNserver / (800) 879-6882 / free / *Reader Service No. 679*

Hummingbird Communications Columbus / (416) 496-2200 / $245 direct / *Reader Service No. 680*

IBM Internet Connection Server for MVS / (800) 426-2255 / $2,350 to $10,560 direct / *Reader Service No. 681*

ILAR Concepts FolkWeb Server / support@ilar.com / $120 direct / *Reader Service No. 682*

InfoExpress Virtual TCP Online / (415) 969-9609 / $89 per client, direct / *Reader Service No. 683*

Infovav Spinner / alla@infovav.se / free / *Reader Service No. 684*

Innovative Desktop ExpressO Internet Server / (800) 730-7213 / $125 (nonprofit); $195 (commercial), direct / *Reader Service No. 339*

JSB Intranet Jazz Server / (800) 572-8640 / $285 direct / *Reader Service No. 340*

Mustang Software Wildcat 5 for Windows 95 and NT / (800) 999-6619 /$349 for 16 users, direct / *Reader Service No. 341*

Netscape Commerce Server 1.1 for Windows NT / (415) 937-3777 / $995 direct / *Reader Service No. 342*

Omnicron OmniHTTPd Server 1.0 (alpha 6) / glau@husc.harvard.edu / free / *Reader Service No. 343*

Open Market Secure WebServer 2.0 / (800) 801-8504 / $4,995 direct / *Reader Service No. 344*

OS Technologies WebNotes / (508) 433-0200 / $1,995 direct / *Reader Service No. 345*

Process Software Purveyor WebServer (Windows 95 1.1) / (800) 722-7770 / $295 direct / *Reader Service No. 346*

Qbik Software WinGate / adrien@iconz.co.nz / free for single users / *Reader Service No. 347*

Quarterdeck WebStar NT/95 / (800) 683-6696 / $399 direct / *Reader Service No. 348*

Spry Web Server for Windows NT / (800) 777-9638 / $245 direct / *Reader Service No. 349*

TEC Solutions TECWeb Server / (408) 973-8855 / $10,000 direct / *Reader Service No. 350*

Texas Imperial Software Winsock FTP Daemon / (512) 346-2729 / $15 direct / *Reader Service No. 351*

TradeWave TradeVPI / (512) 433-5300 / $15,000 for 100 users, direct / *Reader Service No. 352*

Wayfarer QuickServer / sales@wayfarer.com / $5,000 for 10 users, direct / *Reader Service No. 353*

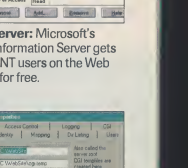
Webshare / (713) 918-1180 / free / *Reader Service No. 354*

Wildbear Consulting WinSmpt 1.07 / (518) 576-3873 / $60 direct / *Reader Service No. 355*

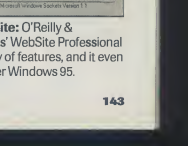
Windows httpd 1.4 / rdenny@netcom.com / $99 direct / *Reader Service No. 356*

Dr. Livingston for the Web: Microsoft's Internet Explorer is a full-featured app with an easy-to-use interface.

Still the Leader: Netscape's Navigator takes advantage of all the Navigator plug-ins, plus it supports Java applets.



Stellar Server: Microsoft's Internet Information Server gets Windows NT users on the Web fast—and for free.



Starter Site: O'Reilly & Associates' WebSite Professional has plenty of features, and it even runs under Windows 95.

PC Computing Best

There is a part of you that remembers
(vaguely)
how it feels
to be passionate about your work.
To find a challenge around every corner.
To constantly search out faster, smarter
ways to get the job done.
There is a part of you that
still needs to do extraordinary things.
START
DOING
EXTRAORDINARY
THINGS
Designed for
Microsoft
Windows 95
LPGA
livegear
Microsoft
Internet
Explorer
Genuine
Microsoft
Products
TravelMate, livegear and "Start Doing Extraordinary Things" are trademarks of Texas Instruments. Pentium and the Intel Inside logo are registered trademarks of Intel Corp. The Genuine Microsoft Products logo is a trademark and Microsoft, Windows and the Windows logo are registered trademarks of Microsoft Corp. *Compared to the IBM 760ED, Compaq LTE 5300, Toshiba Tecra 720CDT. © 1996 TI.

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- Weight: 5.9 lbs. with floppy
- 6-way modular bay with floppy & optional 6X CD-ROM, high capacity diskette drive, 2nd Lithium ion battery, 2nd HDD, weight reduction module
- Energy-saving, super high aperture TFT screen
- Zoomed video port
- 120 or 133MHz Pentium® processor with PCI bus (internal and external)

To rekindle the spark between you and your work, we created the TravelMate® 6000 series. A unique 6-way modular bay offers unparalleled storage and memory capabilities, thus giving you greater freedom and flexibility. Add to that a screen that's significantly brighter yet consumes less power, along with a wide range of optional docking stations, and you've got the world's lightest, high performance modular notebook.* And one that's fully supported by our new line of livegear™ accessories. Making the TravelMate not just an extraordinary piece of technology. But 5.9 pounds of pure inspiration.

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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

Circle 165 on reader service card.

Speedy CD-ROMs: Some budget notebooks, like Toshiba's Satellite Pro, pack in a six-speed CD-ROM (top).

Multimedia Prowess: Turn a TV into a big-screen presentation tool with Micron's Millennia TransPort (bottom).

Perfect

Blazing-fast Pentiums, screaming CD-ROMs, monster screens.

SYNOPSIS

MULTIMEDIA: *Desktop features wrapped neatly in 8-pound packages.* **148**

WORKHORSE: *Road-ready portables at down-to-earth prices.* **150**

FINAL ANALYSIS: *Can you make do with a workhorse or should you splurge for all the bells and whistles?* **152**

DECISION MAKER: *We help you decide which notebook is best for your needs.* **152**

Greed didn't go out with the '80s. When it comes to notebooks, the rule is simple: Always buy more than you need. More power, more features, a bigger screen, and a fatter hard drive can protect you from the unforeseen. Besides, being greedy is easy these days. Even on a tight budget, you can get more than you'd expect.

Today's top-end multimedia portables give you all the features of any decent desktop system: a 120MHz or 133MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, a gigabyte of storage, a quad-speed CD-ROM drive, and a big, high-resolution color screen.

Admittedly, these tech-heavy portables aren't cheap. Nor are they fun to tote. With active-matrix displays up to 12.1 inches and CD-ROM drives, high-end multimedia notebooks have ballooned

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ARNOLD TOKELO

High Portability: Take only what you need on the road with Dell's 7-pound Latitude (left).

Get the Point: Trackballs are scarce; touch pads and pointing sticks reign. Only Micron's Millennia TransPort gives you both (right).

Portables

You know you want one!

past the conventional 8.5-by-11-inch form factor to 9 by 12 inches and bigger. They also typically weigh a back-straining 8 pounds or more.

Of course, many of these high-end multimedia machines rarely see the road. Instead, they're used as desktop replacements and for the occasional business trip. Others are riding the explosion in road-worthy multimedia. They let you deliver your presentation in style no matter where you are.

Even if you can't spend over $3,500, you needn't forgo multimedia. Today's productivity workhorse notebooks pack midrange Pentium CPUs, big hard drives, and up to 11.3-inch color displays. Some even have removable CD-ROM drives.

So go ahead—get greedy.

BY MARTY JEROME

Multitask: Swap the CD-ROM for a floppy drive, battery, or hard drive with Twinhead's SlimNote (top).

Big Display: Impress your audience with the 12.1-inch screen on Compaq's LTE 5300 (bottom).

Multimedia Marvels

Presentations never get a second chance. Lose your audience's attention, and the deal dies. This should be reason enough to buy a portable that delivers the best show possible. Key features of a superlative multimedia notebook include a big, high-resolution color display, ultrafast CPU performance, 16MB of EDO RAM, a fast CD-ROM drive, and the ability to use a variety of multimedia data types such as sound and full-motion video. As *PC Computing*'s labs discovered, these features are standard on today's high-end machines.

Showstopper Compaq's LTE 5300 is a case in point. It sports a 133MHz Pentium, as do Micron's Millennia TransPort, Olivetti's Echos P133, and AMS Tech's PowerCD 8550. The other systems come with 120MHz Pentiums.

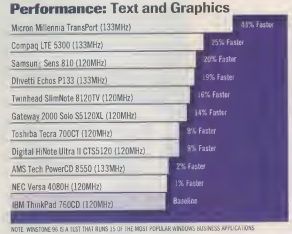
The LTE 5300 was second only to the Millennia TransPort in overall performance, thanks to its fast page memory and 256K L2 cache. Samsung's Sens 810 and Olivetti's Echos P133 were also speedy—especially with graphics. Digital's HiNote Ultra II CTS5120 and the Echos P133 came with six-speed CD-ROM drives, giving them maximum multimedia performance. The other notebooks come with quad-speed drives.

Big Screen, Long Life The LTE 5300's 12.1-inch display dwarfs the screens of every other machine except IBM's ThinkPad 760CD, although the Echos P133's 11.8-inch screen comes close. Audiences of as many as five can view this size screen with ease.

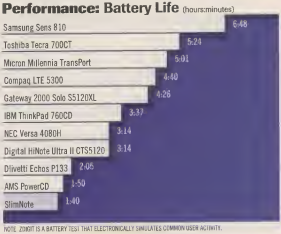
Despite its big color display, fast CPU, and L2 cache, the LTE 5300 managed almost five hours of charge life—on nickel–metal hydride batteries, no less. This was impressive, though well behind the Sens 810 (which lasted almost 7 hours), Toshiba's Tecra 700CT, and the Millennia TransPort—all of which use lithium-ion technology. But with the LTE 5300 you can swap the CD-ROM drive for a second battery to gain even longer life.

For that matter, you can swap the CD-ROM drive for a second hard drive. In other words, the LTE 5300 adapts to your changing demands. This flexibility gives it an edge over the Millennia TransPort and the Tecra 700CT. Its price and power make it superior to the ThinkPad 760CD. And its big display and outstanding usability help it surpass everything else.

Song and Dance: Compaq's versatile LTE 5300 offers a resplendent 12-inch screen and 133MHz performance.



Rip Roarin': A CPU's clock speed isn't everything, as some of the faster 120MHz systems demonstrate.



Long Haul: Despite battery-draining features, most multimedia portables get at least three hours of life.

Top Multimedia Notebooks

Product	Price*	Features as Tested	Display**	Weight	Pros	Cons	Verdict
Compaq LTE 5300 (800) 345-1518 *Reader Service No. 745*	$6,179	133MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.35GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	12.1 inches	8.3 pounds	Screaming performance; top-drawer technology; big, radiant screen.	A bit pricey.	★★★★★ When only the best will do, look no further.
Digital Equipment HiNote Ultra II CTS5120 (800) 642-4532 *Reader Service No. 746*	$4,898 list	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.08GB hard drive, six-speed CD-ROM drive	10.4 inches	5.4 pounds	Feathery weight; innovative design; quick CD performance.	Smallish screen; extremely delicate.	★★★★½ The first high-end multimedia portable you'll take with you everywhere.
IBM ThinkPad 760CD (800) 426-2968 *Reader Service No. 747*	$7,584	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.2GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	12.1 inches	8.3 pounds	First-rate modularity; resplendent display.	Middling performance; most expensive system we tested.	★★★★½ Still a leader, if you can afford it.
Micron Millennia TransPort (800) 438-3343 *Reader Service No. 748*	$4,899	133MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM,1.2GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	8.0 pounds	Top performance; tireless battery life.	Big and boxy.	★★★★½ An excellent machine for a light itinerary.
Toshiba Tecra 700CT (800) 334-3445 *Reader Service No. 749*	$4,999	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.13GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	8.6 pounds	Unflagging battery life; fine versatility.	Pricey for a 120MHz system.	★★★★½ Wait for the sale—better yet, wait for the upgrade.
Gateway 2000 Solo S5120XL (800) 846-2000 *Reader Service No. 750*	$4,099	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.2GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	7.2 pounds	Totable weight; down-to-earth price.	Lethargic CD-ROM performance; tinny sound.	★★★½ High-end multimedia at a reasonable price.
NEC Technologies Versa 4080H (800) 388-8888 *Reader Service No. 751*	$5,400	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.08GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	10.4 inches	7.2 pounds	Top-notch modularity; respectably lightweight.	Small display; steep price.	★★★½ Still a contender, but the design is showing its age.
Olivetti Personal Computers Echos P133 (888) 465-4838 *Reader Service No. 752*	$4,999	133MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.2GB hard drive, six-speed CD-ROM drive	11.8 inches	7.6 pounds	Big screen; good performance.	Could use a boost in battery life.	★★★½ A solid presentation platform for the money.
Samsung Electronics America Sens 810 (800) 933-4110 *Reader Service No. 753*	$3,999	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.3GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	9.2 pounds	First split ergonomic keyboard for notebooks; unbeatable battery life.	On the heavy side.	★★★½ Your hands will thank you; your shoulders will not.
Twinhead SlimNote 8120TV (800) 995-8946 *Reader Service No. 754*	$4,195	120MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.3GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	8.0 pounds	Great versatility; terrific price.	Middling performance; anemic battery life.	★★★½ A good desktop replacement, but keep it near an AC outlet.
AMS Tech PowerCD 8550 (800) 886-2671 *Reader Service No. 755*	$4,765	133MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1.3GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	8.7 pounds	Loaded with features, including video-capture circuitry.	Slow performance; short battery life; shoulder-straining traveling weight.	★★½ Dollar for dollar, you can find a better system.

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE **ACTIVE MATRIX

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

Workhorse Wonders

Expensive, high-end multimedia notebooks are fine for putting on a show, but what about real work? Give us something down to earth—roll-up-your-sleeves productivity at a price that won't send the folks in purchasing into gales of laughter. We set a budget ceiling of $3,500, then looked for the most that price could muster. We found that even at that price point, you don't have to sacrifice performance or features.

Power and Pedigree To winnow down the crowd of contenders, we set some fussy requirements: 100MHz Pentium, 8MB of RAM, and a 10.4-inch color screen. "Pshaw," said the folks at Toshiba, handing us a Satellite Pro 420CDT. Priced at $2,999, it meets our minimum requirements and even features full multimedia capability—including 2MB of video RAM and a six-speed CD-ROM drive. Dollar for dollar, you won't find a better value anywhere.

Only Dell's lightning-fast Latitude XPi P100SD outperformed the Satellite Pro 420CDT. Twinhead's SlimNote 8100CX tied for third with WinBook's XP5 in our performance tests. The SlimNote costs nearly $500 more, but it comes with a quad-speed CD-ROM drive. It's also worth noting that Canon's Innova Book 360CD, equipped with AMD's 133MHz P75 CPU, was a middling performer, and NEC's Versa 550D, which uses Cyrix's 100MHz 5x86 chip, arrived dead last in overall performance.

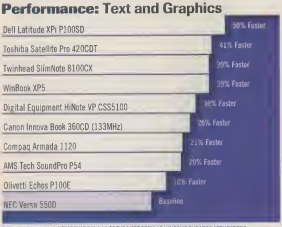
The Satellite Pro's six-speed CD-ROM performance led the group. Canon's Innova Book, Twinhead's SlimNote 8100CX, and Olivetti's Echos P100E use quad-speed drives. None of the other machines came with CD-ROM drives. The Satellite Pro had an 11.3-inch screen. Every other notebook came with the industry-standard 10.4-inch screen, though WinBook's XP5 and the Echos P100E use active-matrix models.

Big Bargain: Toshiba's Satellite Pro 420CDT packs many of the features found in notebooks that cost thousands more.

Never Say Die The Satellite Pro showed off excellent charge life, coming in third after Dell's indefatigable Latitude and AMS Tech's SoundPro P54. Both systems use expensive lithium-ion technology. Of course, costly technology doesn't guarantee top performance: The SlimNote and the WinBook also use lithium ion, and both placed near the bottom of our battery tests.

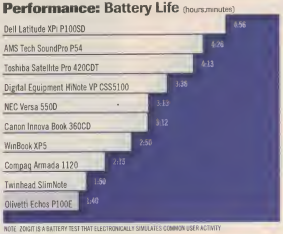
Speedy performance, multimedia, long charge life, superb usability, and seductive price—is there any reason to dislike Toshiba's Satellite Pro?

Performance: Text and Graphics



Pentium Pace: 100MHz Pentiums and superfast video help top notebooks outmuscle the competition.

Performance: Battery Life (hours:minutes)



Full Charge: These workhorse portables will keep up with you on the road and beyond.

Top Workhorse Notebooks

Product	Price*	Features as Tested	Display**	Weight	Pros	Cons	Verdict
PC Computing EASY **Toshiba Satellite Pro 420CDT** (800) 334-3445 *Reader Service No. 756*	$2,999	100MHz Pentium, 8MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive, six-speed CD-ROM drive	11.3 inches	7.0 pounds	Big screen; full multimedia; alluring price.	What's not to like?	★★★★★ When your budget is tight, this is the machine to get. You won't be sorry.
Canon Innova Book 360CD (800) 423-2366 *Reader Service No. 757*	$2,599	133MHz AMD 5x86 CPU, 8MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	10.4 inches	7.4 pounds	Amazing price for full multimedia mobility.	Middling performance.	★★★★ Cheapest way to put a multimedia PC in your hands.
Dell Latitude XPi P100SD (800) 613-3355 *Reader Service No. 758*	$3,499	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive	10.4 inches	7.0 pounds	Loads of power; long battery life.	Pricey, given its lack of a CD-ROM drive.	★★★★ A sturdy bread-and-butter productivity PC.
Digital Equipment HiNote VP CSS5100 (800) 642-4532 *Reader Service No. 759*	$2,274	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive	10.4 inches	6.9 pounds	Good battery life; AC adapter doubles as battery.	Average performance.	★★★★ A solid productivity notebook at a terrific price.
Twinhead SlimNote 8100CX (800) 995-8946 *Reader Service No. 760*	$3,490	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	10.4 inches	7.9 pounds	Solid performance, great versatility, and multimedia to boot.	Steep price compared with that of the Satellite Pro.	★★★★ Brimming with technology found in much more expensive portables.
Compaq Armada 1120 (800) 345-1518 *Reader Service No. 761*	$1,899	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive	10.4 inches	7.1 pounds	Great price; travel-happy form factor.	Yawning performance; no multimedia.	★★★ A *very* entry-level machine.
NEC Versa 550D (800) 388-8888 *Reader Service No. 762*	$1,699	100MHz Cyrix 5x86 CPU, 8MB of RAM, 540MB hard drive	10.4 inches	7.5 pounds	Fetching price; good usability.	Disappointing performance; hefty weight for no CD-ROM.	★★★ Entry-level all the way.
Olivetti Personal Computers Echos P100E (888) 465-4838 *Reader Service No. 763*	$3,499	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 1GB hard drive, quad-speed CD-ROM drive	10.4 inches, active matrix	7.7 pounds	Full multimedia; active-matrix display; floppy drive swaps for a second battery.	Meager battery life; sluggish performance.	★★★ Smart design and solid multimedia.
WinBook XP5 (800) 468-2162 *Reader Service No. 764*	$2,999	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 810MB hard drive	10.4 inches, active matrix	7.1 pounds	Speedy performance, active-matrix display, and a modem for under three grand.	No CD-ROM drive.	★★★ A hard worker with good usability.
AMS Tech SoundPro P54 (800) 886-2671 *Reader Service No. 765*	$2,512	100MHz Pentium, 16MB of RAM, 800MB hard drive	10.4 inches	7.8 pounds	Agreeable price; long battery life.	Sleepy performance; tubby weight given there's no CD-ROM drive.	★★ As entry-level workhorses go, better systems abound.

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE. **DUAL-SCAN PASSIVE MATRIX UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

Final Analysis: Totable, Affordable—and Loaded

Peerless Portables

Eighteen months ago, multimedia split notebook design squarely down the middle. On the one hand, the larger displays and 5.25-inch CD-ROM drives required for multimedia forced notebooks to balloon in size and weight. The extra space allowed manufacturers to add full-size keyboards, palm rests, multifunction drive bays, and a raft of technologies and features typically found only on desktop PCs. Multimedia notebooks became desktop replacements and presentation platforms. They also became big, heavy, and expensive.

On the other hand, workhorse portables sacrifice big screens and CD-ROM drives for lighter weight and a lower price. They're typically not as versatile as pricier multimedia notebooks, and they lack panache.

But it appears that these two types of notebook design are about to merge, thanks to price wars and technological advances. Toshiba's $2,999 Satellite Pro 420CDT, for example, is clearly a workhorse portable. Yet it delivers excellent multimedia, even if it lacks the flair of more expensive multimedia portables.

Meanwhile, Digital's HiNote Ultra II CTS5120 proves that a full-featured multimedia notebook does not have to be shoulder wrenching. And IBM's new ThinkPad 560 will feature a 133MHz Pentium, a CD-ROM drive, and a 12.1-inch display, while weighing only 4.1 pounds and measuring a superslim 1.2 inches (see "Ultratrim and Built to Travel," July, page 52). Compaq plans to slenderize its machines to 1.5 inches while increasing the display to 11.8 inches. If these titans are any indication of future trends (and we think they are), next year's battle will be for thin notebooks with all the bells and whistles.

As these two design philosophies come together, your budget will dictate the path you must take. But before you dismiss multimedia portables out of hand, consider using one as a desktop replacement system. Also, if your salary depends on the presentations you give, buying a cheap multimedia portable could save you now—but cost you later.

Lab testing was performed by IBRAHIM GUL *and* JON MILELLI.

DECISION MAKER

CHOOSE THE RIGHT **NOTEBOOK** FOR YOUR NEEDS

1 Choose the factor that's most important.	2 Choose the next most important factor.	3 What types of features are important?	4 For your needs, the best product to buy is…
Performance	Usability	Multimedia	Compaq LTE 5300
		Workhorse	Dell Latitude XPi P100SD
	Price	Multimedia	Micron Millennia TransPort
		Workhorse	Toshiba Satellite Pro 420CDT
Usability	Performance	Multimedia	Compaq LTE 5300
		Workhorse	Toshiba Satellite Pro 420CDT
	Price	Multimedia	Compaq LTE 5300
		Workhorse	Toshiba Satellite Pro 420CDT
Price	Performance	Multimedia	Samsung Sens 810
		Workhorse	Toshiba Satellite Pro 420CDT
	Usability	Multimedia	Gateway 2000 Solo S5120XL
		Workhorse	Digital HiNote VP CSS5100

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Sweet Seventeen

Make the big move to a 17-inch monitor

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERNIE FRIEDLANDER

Now there's no excuse to have anything less than a 17-inch monitor on your desk. Sure, 20- and 21-inch displays are astonishing, but they'll also set you back around $2,000 (see "The Big Picture," June, page 156). Today's 17-inch monitors offer a sizable advantage over 15-inch displays at an affordable price.

It may not sound like much, but a couple of inches on a monitor look a lot bigger than you'd think. We're talking 30 percent bigger than a 15-inch display. That means larger windows. More data on the screen. Higher resolution. In effect, there's one-third more space to view your apps and get your work done.

And 17-inch monitors are no longer the pricey playthings of artists and desktop

BY CHRIS O'MALLEY

17-Inch Displays: More Screen for the Money

publishers—in recent months they've gone mainstream. Good ones sell for around $900. If you're buying a new PC, you can probably upgrade to a 17-inch monitor for less than $300. These low prices make 17-inch displays the price-performance leaders in the monitor market.

OK, so you're convinced. Now it's time to shop. Overall image quality should top your list. And while the Trinitron-style (sometimes called vertically flat) tubes have long been preferred for their bright, rich colors, this roundup found that the more common Shadow Mask tubes produce a picture of equal—and even superior—quality. In fact, our jury of experienced monitor users rated two Shadow Mask models, Samsung's SyncMaster 17GLsi and Panasonic's PanaSync/Pro P17, as having the best picture quality overall. ViewSonic's PT770, which uses a Trinitron cousin called SonicTron, was a close third. Nokia's Trinitron-tubed Multigraph 447Xav and Sampo's Shadow Mask–based AlphaScan 17gx rounded out our top five.

A fast refresh rate is important to prevent flicker at high resolutions. All the monitors in this roundup display images at 1,024 by 768 resolution at an acceptably flicker-free rate of 75Hz or higher. NEC Technologies' MultiSync XV17+ and Sony's Multiscan 17sfII both drop to a more flicker-prone 60Hz at 1,280 by 1,024 resolution—though few people need such high resolution on a 17-inch monitor. Nokia's Multigraph 447Xav supports 72Hz at 1,600 by 1,200—but that ultrahigh resolution is better suited to the more expansive screen space on a 20-inch or larger display.

While eye-pleasing, rich color and fast refresh rates are top considerations, an easy-to-use control panel can be a great asset if a monitor's default settings leave you unimpressed. Samsung's retractable

Good Looks, Great Price: Super color, intuitive controls, and a low price make Samsung's SyncMaster 17GLsi an easy choice for buyers of 17-inch monitors.

12-button console and onscreen icons are a model of user-friendly design. The easy-to-understand controls on the monitors from Panasonic, Sampo, NEC, and Sony are also a pleasure to use. Adjusting the other monitors sometimes became frustrating, however. For example, the dial and ten buttons on Nanao's FlexScan T2-17TS make for tedious changes, while Smile's CA1706M2 stymies users with a cryptic LCD display.

At a street price of $919, the top-rated Samsung SyncMaster 17GLsi is our value leader. But Sampo's AlphaScan ($729) and NEC's MultiSync ($849) both performed well enough to qualify as bargains.

USABILITY SIMPLE CONTROLS MAKE MONITOR ADJUSTMENTS EASY

Now You See It: Samsung's easy-to-understand 12-button panel folds out of the way when not in use.

Bare Essentials: Panasonic keeps things simple with a streamlined set of four controls.

Top 17-Inch Monitors

Product	Price*	Tube Type	Dot Pitch	Maximum Refresh Rates	Pros	Cons	Verdict
PC Computing 5 STAR **Samsung Electronics SyncMaster 17GLsi** (800) 933-4110 *Reader Service No. 731*	$919	Shadow Mask	0.26mm	100Hz at 1,024 by 768; 80Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 68Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Crisp, clear images and convenient, hideaway controls.	None	★★★★★ Samsung's got a great picture and a great deal.
Panasonic PanaSync/Pro P17 (800) 742-8086 *Reader Service No. 732*	$879	Shadow Mask	0.25mm	106Hz at 1,024 by 768; 81Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 65Hz at 1,600 by 1,280	Nice color and intuitive four-button controls.	Picture quality could be slightly sharper.	★★★★ A colorful performer at a down-to-earth price.
ViewSonic PT770 (800) 888-8583 *Reader Service No. 733*	$875	SonicTron	0.25mm	101Hz at 1,024 by 768; 77Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 66Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Includes 20 custom control configurations.	Difficult to modify the programmable modes.	★★★★ A monitor that's easy on the eyes.
Nokia Display Products Multigraph 447Xav (800) 296-6542 *Reader Service No. 734*	$949	Trinitron	0.25mm	110Hz at 1,024 by 768; 85Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 72Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Built-in stereo speakers and microphone.	Images could be crisper; tedious controls.	★★★★ This one's made to order for multimedia.
Sampo Technology AlphaScan 17gx (770) 449-8220 *Reader Service No. 735*	$729	Shadow Mask	0.26mm	100Hz at 1,024 by 768; 76Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 65Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Good color; simple five-button controls.	Images become grainy around screen edges; slight blur.	★★★★ A worthy display that won't tax your wallet.
Eizo Nanao Technologies FlexScan T2-17TS (800) 800-5202 *Reader Service No. 736*	$1,149	Diamondtron	0.25mm	110Hz at 1,024 by 768; 82Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 68Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Auto-adjust button fits images to size of screen.	Focus could be better; cumbersome controls.	★★★ Good image quality, but it costs a bit too much.
NSA/Hitachi SuperScan Elite 17 (800) 441-4832 *Reader Service No. 737*	$875	Shadow Mask	0.26mm	101Hz at 1,024 by 768; 76Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 66Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Monitor displays resolution and refresh rate at start-up.	Focus could be tighter.	★★★ The same dollars can buy better picture quality.
Mitsubishi Electronics Diamond Pro 17TX (800) 843-2515 *Reader Service No. 738*	$1,059	Diamondtron	0.25mm	105Hz at 1,024 by 768; 80Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 70Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Roll-down control panel hides away when not in use.	Picture could be more crisp.	★★★ A solid performer that doesn't come cheap.
NEC Technologies MultiSync XV17+ (800) 632-4636 *Reader Service No. 739*	$849	Shadow Mask	0.28mm	76Hz at 1,024 by 768; 60Hz at 1,280 by 1,024	Easy-to-use onscreen controls.	Images lose focus near screen edges; only fair color.	★★★ A top-name maker builds a bargain monitor.
Sony Electronics Multiscan 17sfII (800) 352-7669 *Reader Service No. 740*	$1,099 list	Trinitron	0.25mm	75Hz at 1,024 by 768; 60Hz at 1,280 by 1,024	Sharp picture with nice color; easy controls.	Can't set each color individually.	★★★ Good color but pricey.
Princeton Graphics Systems Ultra 17+ (800) 747-6249 *Reader Service No. 741*	$729	Shadow Mask	0.28mm	75Hz at 1,024 by 768; 75Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 60Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	Controls labeled with easy-to-understand icons.	Grainy images lean toward yellow.	★★ A low price but below-average image quality.
Smile Int'l CA1706M2 (800) 876-4532 *Reader Service No. 742*	$685	Shadow Mask	0.26mm	80Hz at 1,024 by 768; 75Hz at 1,280 by 1,024; 68Hz at 1,600 by 1,200	LCD panel displays current resolution and refresh rate.	Blurry, washed-out picture; cryptic controls.	★ Simply can't keep up with the rest of the field.

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

Widen Your View

Your eyes don't lie. And they say it's time to get that 17-inch monitor. But be warned: Even the fastest refresh rates, simplest controls, and absolute lowest price won't make up for poor picture quality.

You don't have to compromise: Samsung's SyncMaster 17GLsi excels at everything. Its crisp screen exhibits great color. Making adjustments is a breeze thanks to the monitor's roll-down control panel and onscreen guides. And at just over $900, it's a great value.

We found some other superb 17-inch choices, too. Both Panasonic's PanaSync/Pro P17 and ViewSonic's PT770 impress with great image quality. They also deliver a slightly finer dot pitch (.25mm versus .26mm) than the 17GLsi.

Nokia's Multigraph 447Xav didn't look quite as good in our jury's eyes, but its high refresh rates and built-in speakers and microphone make this monitor an interesting multimedia option. Mitsubishi's Diamond Pro 17TX also presents pixels better than most, but at $1,059 it costs more than much of the competition.

Sampo's AlphaScan 17gx rests in the middle of the picture-quality pack, but its simple controls and low $729 street price make it a great choice for the cost-conscious. Ditto for NEC's $849 MultiSync XV17+ display. Like all NEC monitors, the XV17+ is rock solid—though its .28mm dot pitch is behind today's technology curve. Sony's Multiscan 17sfII also fits in with this middle-of-the-road group, but you'll pay a bit more ($1,099 list price) for the Sony brand name.

Eizo Nanao's FlexScan T2-17TS and NSA/Hitachi's SuperScan Elite 17 are not bad displays, but their slightly fuzzy pictures and somewhat confusing controls didn't impress our panel—and you can do better for the same money. Princeton Graphics' Ultra 17+, at $729, and Smile's CA1706M2, at $685, *do* have low prices, but their image quality can't compete with that of the other monitors we tested. And poor picture quality is never a good deal.

CHRIS O'MALLEY *is a writer who specializes in video and telecommunications. Lab testing was performed by* IBRAHIM GUL.

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		Refresh Rates	Nokia Multigraph 447Xav
	Image Quality	Controls	Samsung SyncMaster 17GLsi
		Refresh Rates	Panasonic PanaSync/Pro P17
Image Quality	Price	Controls	Samsung SyncMaster 17GLsi
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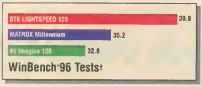

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INSTANT Windows 95 EXPERT

BY ED BOTT

The only Windows 95 manual you'll ever need

165 Internet Support Everything you need to get connected—fast.

167 MS Exchange A universal in-box for e-mail and faxes.

169 Networking Support Get answers to network problems—now!

171 System Utilities Don't overlook the basic disk- and file-maintenance tools.

173 Working with Disks The lowdown on protected-mode drivers, FDISK, and why you can't copy Windows 95 diskettes.

175 Help Use Microsoft's hidden Help file: the comprehensive Resource Kit.

177 CD-ROM Support Get your multi-CD changer working.

179 Hardware Make Plug and Play work—even when it doesn't want to.

181 Windows Registry Inside the mother of all configuration files, the Windows 95 Registry.

183 Shutting Down Before you hit the Big Red Switch, check here.

Sometimes it feels like the only thing missing from the shrink-wrapped Windows 95 box is the do-it-yourself lobotomy kit. Don't despair: There's much more to Windows 95 than the dopey My Computer icon. If you want a deep, meaningful, thoroughly technical dialogue, you needn't look far. Just try configuring TCP/IP support, or convincing Microsoft Exchange to retrieve your Internet mail, or tracking down a pesky interrupt conflict when what you plugged isn't playing.

Which is why we've assembled these guides to Windows 95's toughest topics. (See Part One of "Instant Windows 95 Expert," July, page 138.) They'll turn those grown-up tasks into child's play.

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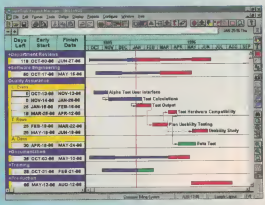

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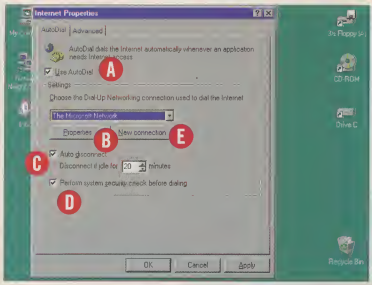

A. Check the Use AutoDial box, and Windows will pop up a connection properties dialog box each time a 32-bit application requests Internet access.

B. Use these connection properties to **set up access to dial-up Internet providers.** Look for the Server Type button, then click on TCP/IP settings to provide separate IP addresses for connecting to different services.

C. Lost track of time? It happens. **Check Auto Disconnect to stop the meter**—the default setting is 20 minutes of inactivity. **Adjust the idle time** to match your preferences.

D. If file and print sharing services are bound to the TCP/IP protocol, anyone on the Internet can, theoretically, browse the contents of your hard disk. The **system security check makes sure those services are disabled** before connecting.

E. After you **create a dial-up connection,** save it and click on the Properties button to **finish the configuration.**

GETTING STARTED

What is it? Windows 95 Internet support includes TCP/IP, 16- and 32-bit Winsock DLLs, and a dial-up networking applet that supports the popular Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP). For a price, the Microsoft Network offers an optional dial-up Internet access network.

What does it do for me? All the software plumbing you need to connect to the Internet is available as part of the basic Windows 95 package. You'll have to go elsewhere for a Web browser, though, and the handful of included Internet utilities, like the command-line FTP client, are rudimentary at best.

How do I set it up? The easiest way is to use the Internet Setup wizard, available at an additional cost as part of the $45 Plus CD. You can also download the entire Internet Jumpstart Kit, including Microsoft's Internet Explorer Web browser, at no cost from Microsoft's Web and FTP sites.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I set up a dial-up Internet connection? The Internet Setup wizard, with its Q&A-style dialog boxes, is the easiest way to configure your system for dial-up Internet access. To do it yourself, install the 32-bit Windows 95 TCP/IP driver and use the Network Control Panel applet to configure it for your IP address, gateway, and domain name server. Then install Dial-Up Networking support and set up a PPP connection to your service provider.

Why did my TCP/IP connection stop working when I installed Windows 95? Windows 95 renamed the version of WINSOCK.DLL that your access software uses and replaced it with its own version. Ask your service provider if there's a Windows 95 update available. If not, move WINSOCK.OLD into the same folder as your access software and rename it WINSOCK.DLL.

I just upgraded my Web browser to a 32-bit version, and now I can't connect to the Web. What's wrong? You're probably using older Internet access software, such as Trumpet Winsock, that uses a 16-bit WINSOCK.DLL. Newer 32-bit Internet utilities like your Web browser require 32-bit Winsock support; when you install Windows 95's built-in TCP/IP support, this facility is included in WSOCK32.DLL.

My Internet service provider charges by the hour. How do I keep my access costs as low as possible? Open the Control Panel and double-click on the Internet icon. Check the Use AutoDial box and turn on Auto Disconnect. Now, whenever an application, such as a Web browser, requests Internet access, Windows 95 will dial automatically, then disconnect after a specified amount of idle time. You may need to adjust this setting or disable it before lengthy downloads; otherwise, Windows 95 will close the connection before the file transfer is complete.

I have a high-speed Internet connection on my PC at work. Can I connect my home PC to the Net using the Dial-Up Server? No, you can't set up your office PC as a dirt-cheap ISP. The Dial-Up Server (found on the Plus CD) allows two Windows PCs to communicate using TCP/IP, but it doesn't allow you to reroute Internet packages.

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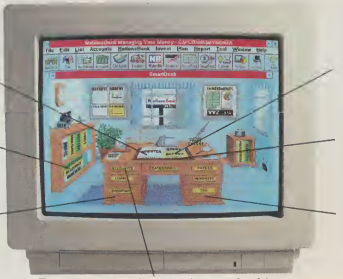

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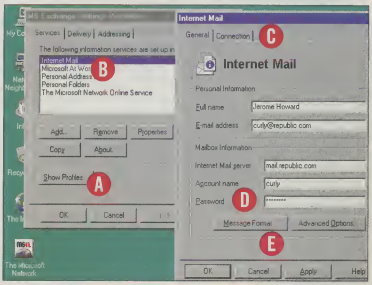
MS Exchange: Universal In-Box



A. Microsoft Exchange profiles are collections of mail components. The default profile includes a set of Personal Folders, a Personal Address Book, and a mail or fax provider.

B. The default message store, called Personal Folders, **acts as a universal in-box** that stores e-mail, faxes, and even, in theory, voice messages.

C. The Internet Mail provider is part of the Internet Jumpstart Kit. Use the Connection tab to **tell Exchange whether to use the network or the modem** to connect to the Net.

D. Don't want your **mail password** stored with your mail file? Then don't enter it here. **You'll be prompted** for the password each time you check your mail.

E. Click here to select which standard to use—MIME is the default—when **sending file attachments across the Internet.** Try sending a few sample files to make sure it's working properly.

GETTING STARTED

What is it? Microsoft Exchange is an industrial-strength e-mail client that lets you plug in services that talk to fax machines, SMTP Internet mail servers, Microsoft Mail machines, and even CompuServe mail. Documentation is sparse and the configuration options are daunting. For some tasks, like faxing, performance can be maddeningly slow.

What does it do for me? If you're employed by a sprawling multinational corporation that's standardized on Exchange, you'll appreciate its sheer bulk. And if you use Microsoft Network as your e-mail address, Exchange is your only choice for sending or retrieving e-mail. But for basic faxing and dial-up Internet mail, it's more trouble than it's worth.

How do I set it up? Look on the desktop for the icon labeled Inbox. Right-click and choose Properties to configure your mail store (the file that holds all your messages) and personal profiles. Double-click to open Exchange and see all your e-mail and faxes in an Explorer-like window.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

All my messages have an equal sign (=) at the end of each line, and many of them are going out with RTF attachments. How do I send plain text? Your correspondents are seeing "quoted printable MIME formatting" in its raw form. To get rid of it, click on the Message Format button on the Internet Mail properties sheet and uncheck the Use MIME box.

Exchange dials my Internet service provider automatically each time I start it up. How can I control when it dials my modem? Open the Inbox Properties dialog box and highlight Internet Mail in the list of installed services. Click on Properties, then on the Connection tab. In the section headed Connecting to Internet Mail, choose Network instead of Modem, then click on OK. (Make sure AutoDial is enabled for Internet access.) Windows will pop up a connection dialog box that lets you say OK before sending or receiving mail.

Why do I have to shut down Exchange every time I want to use my favorite communications program? The other program doesn't use Windows TAPI (telephony application program interface) services. If your Exchange fax driver is set to answer automatically, it will refuse to surrender the modem. The solution is to disable Auto-Answer for faxing, or to find a TAPI-aware communications program that can share the serial port.

Every time I start up Exchange I'm told the modem couldn't be initialized. What's the problem? This bug occurs when you install the Internet Mail provider and fax services in your Exchange profile. At startup, both try to initialize the modem, and whichever gets there second has to send an error message to you. Click OK, and the configuration process will finish properly.

When I shut down Exchange then restart it, my computer sometimes hangs. Am I doing something wrong? Exchange starts up several helper applications, including the At Work fax driver and mail spooler, each time you load it. These programs aren't unloaded until a few minutes after you close Exchange, so if you try to restart the mail program while the helper applications are still in memory, Exchange can hang. The solution: Leave Exchange running, if possible, or wait a few minutes before restarting it.

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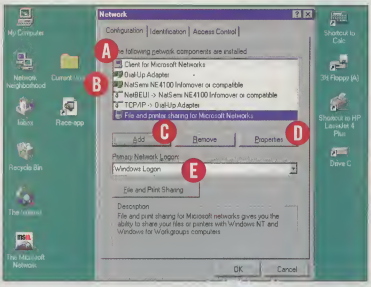

A. Virtually every **network configuration task** can be done from this dialog box. The fastest way to get here? **Right-click on Network Neighborhood,** then choose Properties.

B. Add client software, drivers for network cards, **communication protocols** such as TCP/IP, and services here. To **share files and printers,** you must add the File and Printer Sharing service.

C. Click on Add to choose from a list of **available network components.** Use Remove to **uninstall a component,** such as a network protocol using the incorrect network adapter.

D. To **configure a network component,** select it and **click on Properties.** Most settings are strictly for gearheads, but the TCP/IP settings must be entered properly before you can reach the Internet.

E. Select a primary network log-in here. If you use the same password to log in to all networks, you can enter it here and **skip the extra log-in screens**

GETTING STARTED

What is it? Right out of the box, Windows 95 offers peer-to-peer networking and supports connections to most popular client-server networks, including Windows NT and Novell NetWare. TCP/IP support for Internet access is also included.

What does it do for me? With the appropriate network adapters, any two Windows 95 machines can connect and share files, printers, and fax modems. Dial-Up Networking allows network connections across a phone line or over a serial or parallel cable. And the built-in client software lets you connect to NetWare servers without forcing you to use additional software.

How do I set it up? If you have a network card installed in your machine, Windows 95 should detect it and install the appropriate drivers at setup. Right-click on the Network Neighborhood icon to add new client software, adapters, protocols, or services such as file and print sharing.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why can't I see other Windows 95–based computers on the network? Even if you don't plan to share disks and printers on your PC, you need to install the File and Printer Sharing service before you can access shared resources on another system. Open the Control Panel, start the Network applet, click on the Add button, and choose Service.

Each time I log in, I am asked for a password. Is there a way to prevent this? In very informal networked environments it's possible to bypass the log-in step completely. This is a two-step process: First, right-click on the Network Neighborhood and use the Properties dialog box to set the Primary Network Logon to Windows Logon. Then open the Control Panel Passwords applet and change the password to blank.

Browsing through the Network Neighborhood takes forever. Is there a faster way to connect to a file server or a shared PC? Try using universal naming-convention (UNC) names for shared network drives and folders. To enter a UNC name, you'll need to know the name of the server and the shared volume on that server. Use the *\\server\share* syntax to enter UNC names in common dialog boxes, in the Start menu's Run dialog box, and in shortcuts. If you navigate to a shared folder through the Network Neighborhood, right-drag that folder to your desktop to create a UNC shortcut to it.

I'm used to creating drive mappings on my local PC from our NetWare server. Do I still need to do this with Windows 95? UNC names are generally preferable to drive mappings. If you plan to use applications that don't recognize UNC names, or if your network administrator uses batch files to start some applications, you'll still need to map drives. Right-click on the Network Neighborhood icon and choose Map Network Drive.

When I save files to our NetWare server, all my long filenames are automatically truncated. How can I get NetWare to recognize the longer names? The only way to force NetWare to support long filenames is to install an additional piece of server software called the OS/2 Namespace. Ask your network administrator about this.

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- Hands-free headset with microphone[4]
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[1]In Canada, call 1-800-387-3867. *Average U.S. street price for Pentium® processor-based HP Vectra 510/575 PC. Monitor not included. HP Vectra 500 PCs come with Microsoft Windows 95 preinstalled. [2]Standard on 133-and 166 MHz models, optional on all other models. [3]Other capacities available. [4]Standard on CD, MC and MCe models. [5]Multimedia models only. [6]On-site, second-day business service. Microsoft and Windows are U.S. registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. Pentium and the Intel Inside logo are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation. ©1996 Hewlett-Packard Company FPG429

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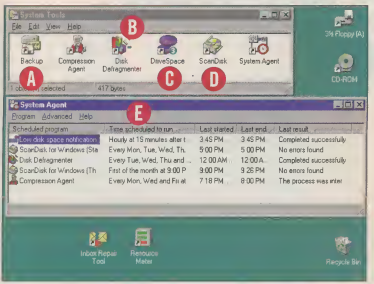
System Utilities: Keep Your Hard Drive Humming



A. **The Windows 95 Backup** utility was written for Microsoft by Colorado Memory Systems. An upgraded version is available on the World Wide Web at www.microsoft.com/windows/software/backupd.htm.

B. Don't expect bells and whistles from the **Disk Defragmenter**, which **does basic defragging duty only** on regular and compressed drives.

C. The **DriveSpace 3** upgrade on the Plus CD **handles large disks** and **offers many compression options.** It also includes a copy of the Compression Agent utility, which recompresses files in the background.

D. **ScanDisk** is the latest-generation graphical descendant of the old DOS CHKDSK utility. Options let you **choose to scan files only or the entire disk,** and to require confirmation and set preferences before repairing errors.

E. The **System Agent,** also included on the Plus CD, **schedules applications to run at predetermined times.** By default, it runs a basic menu of **disk maintenance** tasks.

GETTING STARTED

What are they? A suite of no-frills system utilities (virus checker not included) ships with Windows 95. The Backup utility is not installed by default, and several valuable utilities are available only on the Plus CD. Run the Windows 95 Setup program and look in Accessories to install the System Resource Monitor.

What do they do for me? ScanDisk and Disk Defragmenter handle basic disk management, while Backup is adequate for most non-SCSI tape drives. The DriveSpace 3 upgrade in Plus is worth installing if you already use compression.

How do I set them up? All these utilities, and more, are found in the Accessories folder that cascades out of the Programs menu. Want to eliminate waste caused by large clusters? Use DriveSpace 3 to store data in a single compressed file, but leave compression off to improve performance.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I run ScanDisk and Disk Defragmenter automatically? If you don't mind spending a little extra money, use either the System Agent program, found on the Plus CD, or Norton Program Scheduler, included with a number of Symantec products. To run ScanDisk automatically each time you start your PC, create a shortcut in the Startup group using the command-line SCANDSKW /A /N. The first switch checks all nonremovable local hard drives; the second allows the scan to proceed without requiring your input. To automatically defrag files and free space on all local drives, use a shortcut with the command DEFRAG /all /F /noprompt.

ScanDisk keeps restarting midway through the scan. What's wrong? You've encountered a known bug in ScanDisk. A background process in Windows 95 itself is writing to the disk. Exit ScanDisk, restart Windows, and try running ScanDisk again.

How do I track system resources? Windows 95 handles memory and swap files far better than Windows 3.1, but it's still possible, under some circumstances, for a buggy program to drain your system's resources. To keep a graphical display of system resource levels anchored to the Taskbar, install the System Resource Monitor (you'll find it in the Accessories list) and add it to your Startup group.

My hard drive crashed and I need to restore all files from my backup tape. What do I do? If you used the Full Backup Set option, Windows 95 automatically saved a backup copy of your system settings on the tape. You'll need to boot the hard drive and install a compact version of Windows 95 before you can run the Backup utility and restore all your programs, data, and system settings. If you installed Windows 95 from a CD, be sure to start your system with a boot disk that includes the real-mode CD-ROM drivers.

Can I use the Windows 95 Backup program to restore old backups I made with MS-DOS 6.0? No, the older backup files use an incompatible format. To find the MSBACKUP program needed to restore them, look on the Windows 95 CD in the Other\Oldmsdos\Msbackup folder.

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4 Plug & Play... Not! *You've installed new hardware, but it doesn't work.*

5 The non-disappearing application. *You uninstalled an application properly. But it's still listed in the program menu.*

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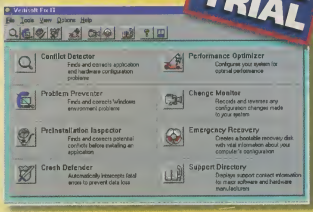

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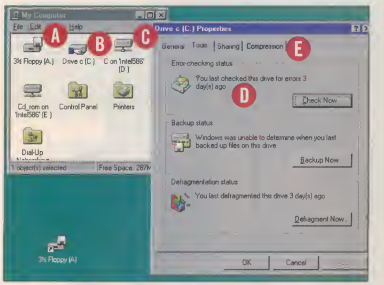
Working with Disks: Safe Storage Options



A. Floppy disks still require formatting. Fortunately, the task is available on the right-click shortcut menu. To **create an emergency startup disk**, use the Control Panel's Add/Remove Programs applet.

B. The outstretched hand underneath this **hard disk icon** means the disk is available for sharing with the rest of the network. To **edit a disk volume label,** right-click and choose Properties.

C. Mapped network drives appear in the My Computer window with their own icon. To **remove a mapped network drive,** right-click on the icon and choose Disconnect.

D. Right-click on a drive icon and choose from the selection of **shortcuts for disk-maintenance tools.** The status lines track the last time you used each utility.

E. Click on the Compression tab to **create or maintain a DriveSpace compressed drive.** If you've upgraded to DriveSpace 3, the **informational display** here is dizzyingly complete.

GETTING STARTED

What is it? Windows 95 includes protected-mode drivers for IDE and SCSI hard drives, floppy drives, and most removable media types. Because the operating system still uses the FAT file system, you need to use FDISK and FORMAT /S after a disk is up and running for low-level disk maintenance.

What does it do for me? You'll find a wealth of information about disks of all sorts in the My Computer window or in the Windows Explorer window. The common tree-and-list Explorer view makes it possible to move files and folders between storage media with ease.

How do I set it up? To see all storage devices available on your PC, look in the My Computer window. To format, copy, or label disks, look for the appropriate command on the right-click shortcut menu. To recognize network drives, right-click on Network Neighborhood or on any folder on any file server.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I see how much space is available on my hard drive? Open the My Computer window. In Details view, total size and free space are displayed for every drive. In other views, you'll need to select the hard drive's icon and look at the status bar at the bottom of the window. To see detailed information about compressed drives, right-click on the drive icon and choose Properties, then switch to the Compression tab.

Why does the hard drive suddenly burst into activity when I haven't done anything? If you've installed the Plus System Agent, it might be running a scheduled program. For example, the default System Agent setup checks free disk space once an hour. The other likely explanation is that the system is taking advantage of your inactivity to resize the Windows 95 swap file, which grows and shrinks dynamically as you work.

How do I copy a floppy disk using a single drive? Open My Computer, right-click on the drive icon, and choose Copy Disk. Select the same drive in both the Copy From and Copy To panes. Windows 95, unlike previous Microsoft operating systems, copies floppies in a single pass.

I have a 1GB hard disk. What's the most efficient way to partition it? In the FAT file system that Windows 95 uses, all partitioning schemes waste some disk space because they divide the disk into equal-sized clusters. Even a zero-byte file uses at least this minimum amount of space. The most space-efficient partitions are puny ones of 127MB or less. In practical terms, though, your best bet is to keep each of your partitions below either 511MB or 1,023MB; these breakpoints are where minimum cluster sizes jump from 16K to 32K and from 32K to 64K, respectively.

I tried to back up my Windows 95 setup diskettes, but got an error message: "Windows cannot copy this type of disk." What's wrong? For Windows and other applications, Microsoft packs 1.6MB onto each diskette using the nonstandard Distribution Media Format. To copy these disks, you can't use DOS or Windows; you'll need a third-party utility like WinImage. To download a copy, visit our Web site (www.pccomputing.com).

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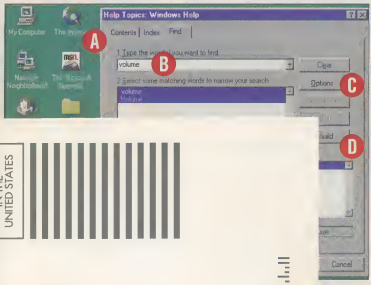
Help: Troubleshooting Advice



A. Use the three tabs at the top of the Help window to **look through an outline-style table of contents or a phrase-based index,** or to search the entire file for particular words or phrases.

B. On the Find tab, enter the text to search for. Index entries that include the text you typed appear in the matching words listed just below.

C. Click on the Options button and check the appropriate boxes to **search for phrases** or to postpone the search until you click on the **Find Now** button.

D. Click on the Rebuild button to select a different set of options for the full-text-search index. The cost of a full index that includes phrases? About three times more disk space.

E. Why the checkbox next to each topic? If you've enabled the option to find similar topics, **use these boxes to identify topics** that are close to what you're looking for, then **click on the Find Similar button.**

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ght the floppy-disk version of Windows. Where can I get the that come with the CD version, including the Resource Kit? All ssing Windows files are available on Microsoft's Web site, www soft.com/windows/software/cdextras.htm.

ing to search the Help file for a two-word phrase, but Windows s all entries that contain either word. How do I narrow the ? By default, the Windows 95 Help engine creates a full-text index that ts word searches. If you create an index that includes phrases as well, ccupy significantly more space—the Resource Kit's index, for example, s from 900K to nearly 4MB. To change the index, launch Help, click on d tab, then click on the Rebuild button.

a problem that's not covered in the Help files or the Resource here do I look next? Try the Microsoft Knowledge Base. It's available TechNet CD, on The Microsoft Network and CompuServe (GO MSKB), a a searchable page on the World Wide Web, at www.microsoft b/. Some of the postings are strictly informational, like Article Q141602, cial "List of Confirmed Bugs in Windows 95." But oth s include point- s to patches and instructions for workarounds.

FREQUE

I'm having trouble tracking down what's causing my problem. Where should I look first? Click on the Start button and choose Help. Expand the Troubleshooting entry on the Contents tab and see if your problem is listed there. These Q&A-style troubleshooters, complete with hot buttons to jump straight to configuration dialog boxes, are an excellent way to make sure you have asked all the right questions.

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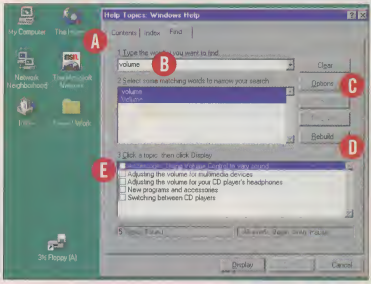

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GETTING STARTED

What is it? The Windows 95 Help engine handles old and new Help files using a simple table of contents that includes excellent troubleshooting advice, plus tabs that let you search indexes.

What does it do for me? A valuable change in Windows 95 is the addition of full-text-search indexing, which allows you to look for words or phrases within a Help file instead of depending on the developer's ability to construct an index. The Windows Resource Kit Help file is a powerful example of how to get the right answer quickly using this feature.

How do I set it up? Setup is handled automatically. The first time you click on the Find tab for a new Help file, Windows constructs an index of all the words in the file. Use the Rebuild button to replace the default full-text-search index with a larger one that includes words and phrases.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Windows 95's Help files don't have the answers I'm looking for. Is there a more comprehensive resource available? Yes, and if you have the CD-ROM version of Windows you already own it. Look for the Windows 95 Resource Kit, a searchable Help file named Win95rk.hlp, in the Admin\Reskit\Helpfile folder, and copy it to your hard drive. The Resource Kit is also available as a thick paperback book for $49.95 from Microsoft Press.

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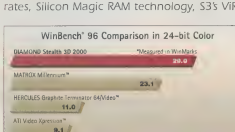

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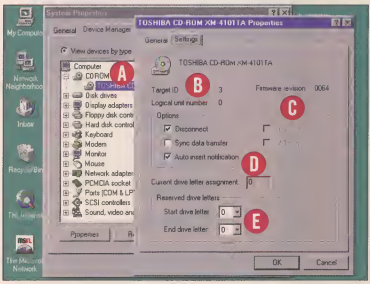
CD-ROM Support: IDE and SCSI Setup Secrets



A. Plug and Play should handle the **configuration details** for most CD-ROM drives. To **change the default settings,** open the **Device Manager** and find the drive entry in the outline-style list.

B. The **Target ID and logical unit number** are shown for **SCSI drives.** For **IDE-based** CD-ROM drives, both of these values are 0.

C. Firmware is the control software that's hard-coded onto the drive circuitry. If your CD-ROM drive won't **play music CDs** properly, **you may need a firmware upgrade.**

D. Don't be **fooled** by the vaguely technical label here. **Remove the checkmark** from this box to **disable AutoPlay,** a feature that automatically runs certain types of CDs, including the Windows 95 disc.

E. By default, these boxes are empty and your CD-ROM drive is assigned the first available drive letter. To ensure that you can always access the drive with the same drive letter, **fill in both of these boxes with identical entries.**

GETTING STARTED

What is it? Out of the box, Windows 95 provides support for SCSI and IDE CD-ROM drives, as well as proprietary interfaces from Panasonic, Mitsumi, Sony, and others.

What does it do for me? Protected-mode CD-ROM drivers handle disk caching automatically. They also allow you to play audio CDs and automatically install and run CD-ROMs (especially games and home/consumer titles) that include an AutoPlay information file.

How do I set it up? Use the Add Hardware wizard to install support for a CD-ROM drive. If the drive is not supported by Windows 95, you may need to use the DOS-style CONFIG.SYS driver and MSCDEX program. Additional configuration options, including the ability to specify a drive letter for a CD-ROM drive, are available in the Device Manager. Click on the CD-ROM drive entry and then on the Properties button to access these settings.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Windows 95 automatically plays some CD-ROMs as soon as I insert them. How do I prevent this? To disable the AutoPlay feature for a single CD, hold down the Shift key as you insert the disc into the player. To disable AutoPlay permanently, open the Control Panel, double-click on the System icon, then switch to the Device Manager tab. Expand the CD-ROM branch and select your CD player. Click on the Properties button, and then on the Settings tab. Remove the check mark from the box labeled Auto Insert Notification and close the Device Manager.

How do I change the drive letter of my CD-ROM? Follow the instructions in the previous answer and navigate to the Device Manager, then to the Settings tab for your CD player. In the section at the bottom of the dialog box, enter the desired drive letter in the boxes labeled Start Drive Letter and End Drive Letter. For a single CD-ROM drive, these entries should be identical.

Why can't I access my CD-ROM drive in MS-DOS mode? Your CD-ROM drive should always be available for MS-DOS windows you launch from within Windows 95. When you boot directly to a command prompt or switch to the special MS-DOS mode, the protected-mode CD-ROM driver is not available. To use the CD-ROM drive, add the real-mode device driver (typically included with your CD-ROM drive) in CONFIG.SYS and load MSCDEX.EXE found in the Windows\Command folder. It's an excellent idea to make sure both files are available on your startup disk as well.

How do I know whether I'm using MSCDEX or not? Open the My Computer window and switch to Details view. If the display tells you the CD-ROM is using exactly 127MB, that's a sure sign MSCDEX is running. Otherwise, it's most likely the protected-mode drivers have kicked in.

Does Windows 95 provide support for CD-ROM changers? Microsoft recommends that you stick with real-mode drivers for most CD changers. Otherwise, each time you launch the Windows Explorer or open a folder window, Windows 95 shuffles through all the discs in the changer to see their current contents. Depending on the number of discs in the changer, that can cause a significant delay.

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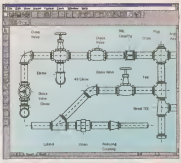

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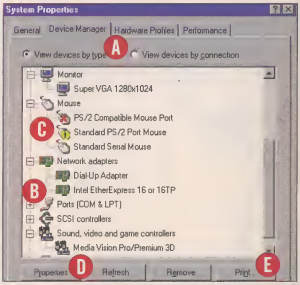
Hardware: Automatically Install New Add-ins



A. Right-click on the My Computer icon and choose Properties to **see details about installed hardware.** The Hardware Profiles tab is intended for use on **notebook PCs** with docking stations.

B. Click on the plus sign to expand a branch. Each installed hardware device has its own entry and icon in the hardware tree.

C. The red X over a device icon means it is **currently disabled.** The yellow exclamation point means there is a **configuration problem**—a missing driver or resource conflict, for example.

D. Click on the Properties button to **view or change settings, driver, and resource information** for each device. To **resolve a resource conflict,** click here and choose the Resource tab.

E. Gearheads can **view and save detailed configuration information.** Click on the Print button to **produce a hard copy** of details for a single branch or the entire system (you'll need lots of paper).

GETTING STARTED

What is it? The Plug and Play code in Windows 95 takes most of the mystery out of installing new hardware devices, and there's a huge selection of driver software that handles the majority of legacy devices.

What does it do for me? Because protected-mode drivers for most common hardware devices are included with the base operating system, most users don't need to mess with CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT. The Device Manager provides a convenient central location for renewing and managing hardware settings.

How do I set it up? At startup, Windows 95 will normally detect hardware that conforms to the Plug and Play specification and automatically install and configure drivers for each device. Use the Control Panel's Add New Hardware wizard to install support for all other devices. To see a list of all the hardware on your PC, right-click on the My Computer icon, choose Properties, and click on the Device Manager tab.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Windows 95 does not have a driver for my new piece of hardware. How do I use it? Check with the manufacturer to see whether a Windows 95 driver is available. If not, you'll have to make do with the older real-mode drivers. The downside is a potential degradation of system performance and less conventional memory for DOS boxes.

My older sound card is supported by Windows 95, but Setup did not detect it. How do I install it? Install the real-mode drivers that came with the sound card, then run the Add New Hardware wizard again. If the system doesn't detect your sound card, look through the list of installed hardware in the Device Manager, click on the Properties button for each one, then check for conflicts on the Resources tab.

How do I know whether all of my real-mode drivers were replaced successfully? Right-click on the My Computer icon again, and this time click on the Performance tab. The information in the center of the dialog box tells you whether any crucial system components are running with the support of real-mode drivers. The three buttons at the bottom of the box allow you to tweak advanced settings.

I need to turn off a built-in piece of hardware, and Windows won't let me. Sometimes Plug and Play is a little too efficient for its own good. If your system includes a resource (such as a serial port) that you want to disable, open the Control Panel's System applet, click on the Device Manager tab, and select the device. Click on the Properties button and uncheck the Original Configuration box on the bottom of the General tab. A red *X* will cover the icon in the Device Manager.

How can I see an inventory of all the IRQs, DMA channels, and other hardware settings used by my computer? Open the Device Manager and select the Computer icon at the top of the tree. Now click on the Properties button. To save a hard-copy listing of all system settings, click on the Print button. To reserve an IRQ or other setting so that Windows 95 doesn't use it, click on the Reserve Resources tab and then on the Add button.

Now

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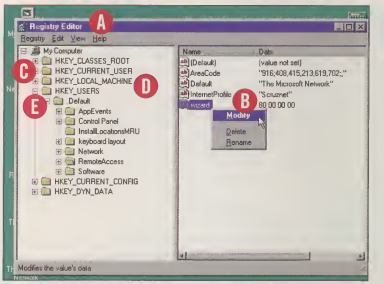
Windows Registry: More Startup Secrets



A. Most settings are changed using **Control Panel applets** or by application setup files. To **change settings manually**, open the Windows folder and run Regedit.exe.

B. Settings are stored in **keys** (shown in the left pane), which in turn contain **values** (shown in the right pane). To **add or edit a key or value**, right-click on an entry.

C. There are six **root keys**, each **beginning with the letters HKEY.** The H tells developers that the key is a handle to access system resources.

D. Information about the **current hardware** is stored in HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE. This information includes **settings** gathered by the Plug and Play code in Windows 95, as well as **preferences** the user enters, such as the local time zone.

E. Information about **users with profiles** set up on the system is stored in HKEY_USERS. Specific information about the **user currently logged on** is found in HKEY_CURRENT_USER.

GETTING STARTED

What is it? The Windows Registry is the mother of all INI files. Literally assembled each time you start your PC, its contents are gathered from Plug and Play events, settings files for the machine (System.dat) and the user (User.dat), and in some cases system policies enforced from a network file server. Windows keeps a hidden backup copy of both crucial DAT files in the Windows folder with the extension DAO.

What does it do for me? Windows 95 uses the Registry to manage virtually all your hardware and software settings. Most Windows 95 applications now add entries here rather than in private INI files that clutter up the Windows folder.

How do I set it up? Most Registry settings are changed via Control Panel applets. Poking around with the help of the Registry Editor can be informative, but think twice before making any changes: A corrupt Registry can ruin your entire month.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Do I still need CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT? Only if you have a piece of hardware that requires a driver not included with Windows 95. Most of the common CONFIG.SYS entries, including drivers for CD-ROM players, sound cards, and SCSI adapters, load as 32-bit protected-mode drivers and don't require any conventional memory. With newer systems, you're unlikely to need either of these startup files.

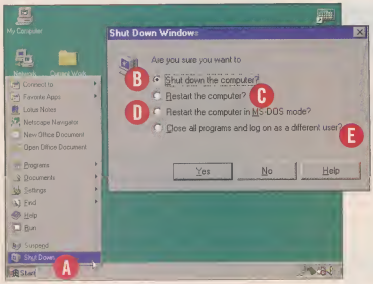
Then can I delete Windows 3.x's WIN.INI and SYSTEM.INI files? Bad idea. For compatibility reasons, Windows 95 maintains pared-down versions of both these files, and older 16-bit Windows applications still record preferences and settings here. If you delete either one, Windows will create a new version containing default settings the next time you boot up, and your 16-bit Windows apps will lose all the preferences you've set up.

How do I boot to a command prompt? You can interrupt the Windows 95 boot process and display a menu of startup options by pressing the F8 key as soon as you see the "Starting Windows 95" message. To make sure you always stop at this menu before continuing into Windows, modify a hidden startup file, MSDOS.SYS, that you'll find in the root directory. Add the line BootMenu=1 under the [Options] heading. (Complete documentation for the MSDOS.SYS file is in the Windows 95 Resource Kit.)

I upgraded to Windows 95. Can I still boot DOS or Windows 3.1? That depends on the choices you made when you installed the Windows upgrade. If you left MS-DOS on your system, you can boot to the previous version of DOS using the F8 startup menu. For even quicker access, add the line BootMulti=1 to the [Options] section of MSDOS.SYS and you can invoke good ol' DOS by pressing F4 when you see the "Starting Windows 95" prompt.

How can I tell if my PC is using any real-mode drivers? When you see the Windows 95 logo, press the Esc key (you may need to do it twice) and watch the messages. As a final check, right-click on the My Computer icon, choose Properties, and look on the Performance tab. You can tell at a glance whether any crucial tasks are being run by 16-bit code.

Shutting Down: Exit Windows Safely



A. It's not exactly intuitive, so trust us: **Click on the Start button to shut down.** Notebooks with Advanced Power Management also offer a **Suspend** option here.

B. Use the **Shut Down** option before **turning off all power** to your PC. This option closes open files and **prompts you to save** any files that have changed.

C. The **Restart** option gracefully closes all running programs, then **reboots your PC.** Hold down the Shift key to **bypass the Power-On Self-Test,** which is equivalent to a warm boot.

D. To run a balky DOS application, **restart in MS-DOS mode.** Properties for DOS programs allow you to specify **unique startup files,** including device drivers, for each one.

E. If you're connected to a network, **log in as a different user** to quickly restart Windows without going through the entire boot cycle.

GETTING STARTED

What is it? Unlike Windows 3.1, Windows 95 allows you to shut down or restart using menu commands. If you've enabled user profiles or installed a network client, you'll also have an option to log in with a different user name.

What does it do for me? Because of Plug and Play, the startup and shutdown routines are far more important in Windows 95 than they were in the days of DOS and Windows 3.1. Shutting down properly allows Windows to close work in progress, tidy up open files, and write configuration information to the Windows Registry.

How do I set it up? The Shut Down and Restart options are enabled by default when you install Windows 95. A third option, to shut down all running programs and reboot in MS-DOS mode, is also available. You can modify the default settings for MS-DOS mode by editing the properties of the MS-DOS application.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

There's no Suspend option on my notebook's Start menu. How do I make it appear? Open the Power applet in the Control Panel. At the bottom of the dialog box you'll see options to show the Suspend menu choice under various configurations.

I like my desktop exactly as it is. How do I *not* save desktop settings on shutdown? The solution may be more bother than the problem. First, enable system policies. To do so, open the Passwords applet in the Control Panel, go to the User Profiles tab, and check the box labeled Users Can Customize Their Preferences. Next, install the System Policy Editor (found in the \Admin\Apptools\Poledit folder of the Windows 95 CD). Use the Policy Editor app to modify the Default User profile—look under System, Restrictions, and place a check mark in the Don't Save Settings at Exit box.

How do I change the Windows 95 shutdown logos? Two files in the Windows folder contain the logos used at shutdown. LOGOW.SYS is the screen that says, "Please wait while your computer shuts down." LOGOS.SYS contains the "It's now safe to turn off your computer" message. Despite the extensions, both files are actually bitmaps that can be edited using Microsoft's Paint. Make a backup copy, and don't change the size or resolution of either image. Save the edited files to the same name, and the new logos will appear at shutdown.

What is MS-DOS mode and how do I use it? For DOS applications that simply won't run under Windows 95, use MS-DOS mode, which effectively throws your system into the equivalent of real-mode DOS. All running Windows and DOS applications are shut down when you switch into MS-DOS mode. To return to Windows, type EXIT at the command prompt. To fine-tune MS-DOS mode settings, right-click on the DOS program icon, choose Properties, and on the Program tab click on the Advanced button.

It sometimes takes several reboots when I'm trying to reconfigure part of my system. How can I speed up the reboot process? To bypass slow parts of the boot process, select Shut Down, choose Restart, and press Shift as you click on OK.

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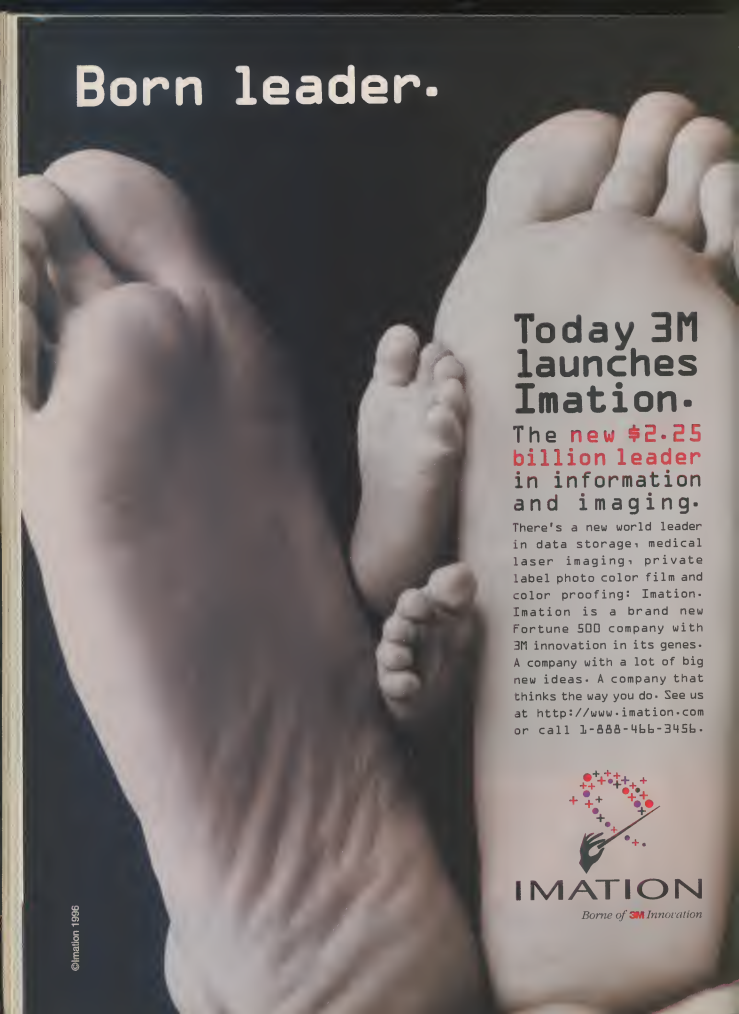
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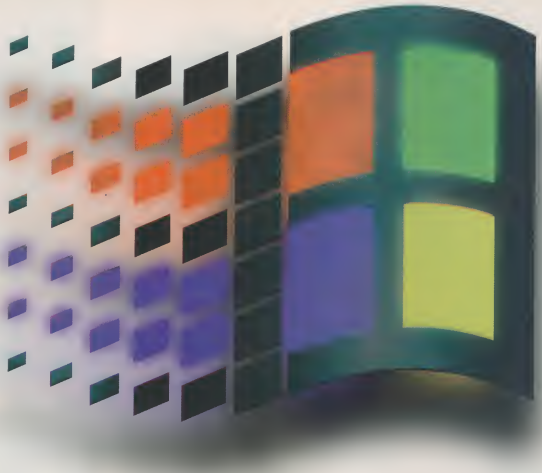

It's all here! PC Computing's exclusive Windows 95 software guide to essential—and entertaining—home and office applications.

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- HiJaak Graphics Suite 95
- Discovery Channel Connections
- ASAP WordPower 1.95
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- The Plains & Santa Fe Collections
- Exploring Word Pro 96
- Tony La Russa Baseball 3
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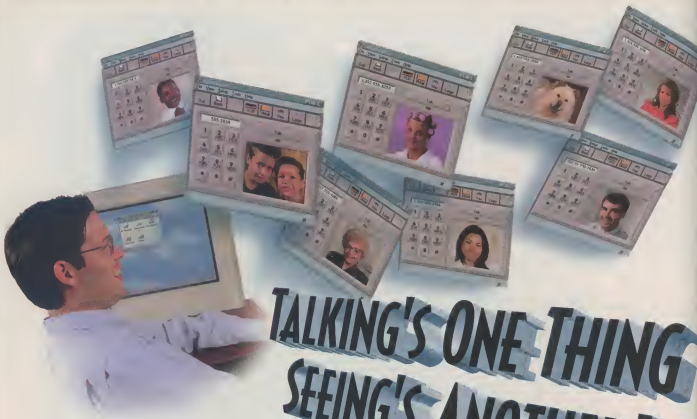

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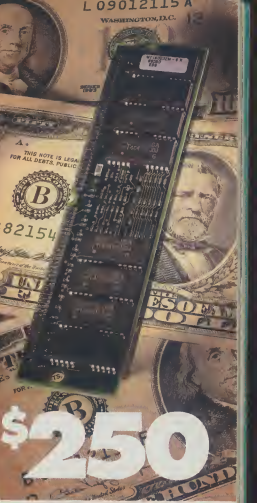

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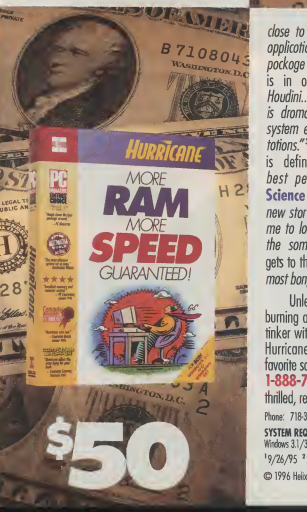

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[1] 9/26/95 [2] 2/20/96 [3] 9/95 [4] 10/95 [5] 12/12/95 [6] 11/95

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GRAPHICS UTILITY

HiJaak Graphics Suite 95

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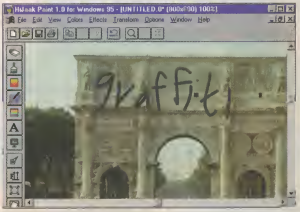

HiJaak is composed of four modules: Capture, Paint, Scan, and Sketch. Capture lets you grab screens easily in almost any image format. Paint is a useful, but basic utility for converting images into different formats and adding special effects such as textures, filters, and 3-D. Scan is a tool that lets you quickly import scanned images, and Sketch lets you access the clip-art library and create your own sketch images.

Unlike stand-alone graphics utilities such as JASC's Paint Shop Pro or Inner Media's Collage, HiJaak Graphics Suite combines four applications that you can access from one interface. And when you register the product, Quarterdeck will send you a cool morphing utility called HiJaak Morph.

All told, Quarterdeck's HiJaak Graphics Suite 95 is a great bargain at $149. If you do a lot of graphics work on your desktop, you'll be drawn to HiJaak.

RICH SCHWERIN

FILEBOX

HiJaak Graphics Suite 95

Pros: Well-integrated, easy-to-use graphics utility at a sweet price.

Cons: Better have at least 35MB of hard disk space.

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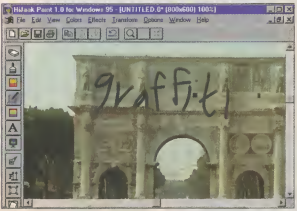
PO Box 50253
Boulder, CO 80321-0253

GRAPHICS UTILITY

HiJaak Graphics Suite 95

When it comes to business graphics, looks are everything. And if you're running Windows 95 and work extensively with graphical images, you'd be wise to invest in Quarterdeck's HiJaak Graphics Suite 95. This utility includes all the graphics tools you need to create and edit graphics in more than 75 image formats. It also includes a clip-art library of more than 10,000 images. The program is 32-bit and OLE 2.0–compliant, so you can easily drag and drop files between applications.



HiJaak is composed of four modules: Capture, Paint, Scan, and Sketch. Capture lets you grab screens easily in almost any image format. Paint is a useful, but basic utility for converting images into different formats and adding special effects such as textures, filters, and 3-D. Scan is a tool that lets you quickly import scanned images, and Sketch lets you access the clip-art library and create your own sketch images.

Unlike stand-alone graphics utilities such as JASC's Paint Shop Pro or Inner Media's Collage, HiJaak Graphics Suite combines four applications that you can access from one interface. And when you register the product, Quarterdeck will send you a cool morphing utility called HiJaak Morph.

All told, Quarterdeck's HiJaak Graphics Suite 95 is a great bargain at $149. If you do a lot of graphics work on your desktop, you'll be drawn to HiJaak. RICH SCHWERIN

FILEBOX

HiJaak Graphics Suite 95

Pros: Well-integrated, easy-to-use graphics utility at a sweet price.

Cons: Better have at least 35MB of hard disk space.

Verdict: Your best choice for creating and manipulating graphics under Windows 95.

$149 est. street price
Quarterdeck Corp.
(800) 638-6696, (310) 309-3700
Reader Service No. 768

MULTIMEDIA ENTERTAINMENT/EDUCATION

Connections

Discovery Channel addicts know James Burke well. He's the perky British science guru who introduces viewers to the intricacies of history, technology, society, and ideas. Discovery Channel Multimedia brings you Connections, a CD-ROM that combines multimedia with the history and technology of Western civilization in a game that's like a journey through time.

You begin in the English countryside outside a medieval castle, near a hovel and some merchants' shops. Explore the area and you run into Burke, who informs you that the "Web"—a vast interconnection of people, thoughts, events, and things that make up history—is coming apart. Before vanishing, Burke provides some direction, and then it's up to you to save the Web. Throughout your adventures, you meet interesting historical characters, from well-known inventors like James Watt to simple palace guards.

The game is part adventure and part mystery. Everything is connected to everything else—that's the motto. And while you initially seem to be dealing with a mishmash of history and technology, it all makes perfect sense before you're done, not unlike Burke's television series.

The interface is simple to master, with full-motion video and easy-to-access controls. With a cool soundtrack to boot, Connections is nothing short of absorbing, guaranteed to hold your interest through hours of play. MICHAEL BANKS

FILEBOX

Connections

Pros: Player interface, full-motion video, and soundtrack are excellent.

Cons: You'll put your life on hold while you play.

Verdict: James Burke fans, rejoice. Never heard of him? Pick up this CD anyway. You won't be disappointed.

$50 list price
Discovery Channel Multimedia
(800) 678-3343
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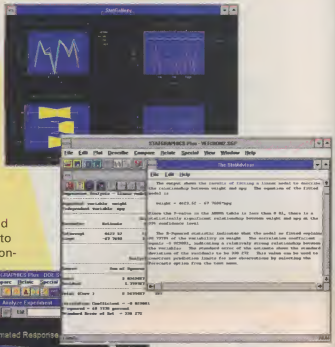

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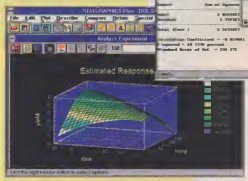

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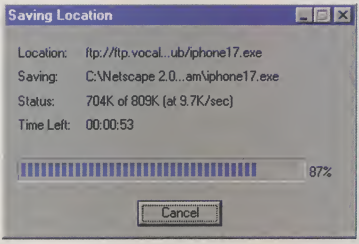

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Designed for MacOS. Designed for Microsoft Windows 95.

ATLANTIC

1 *Visit www.atlantic-records.com*

2 *Now drag-and-drop*

3 *any event into your personal calendar.*

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"TriSpectives…deserves the killer-app label!"

Stanford Diehl, **BYTE Magazine**, October 1995

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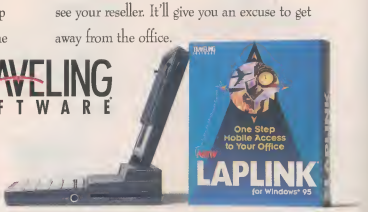

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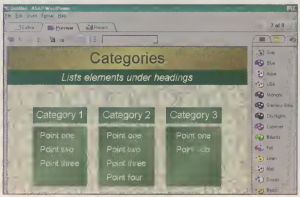
Circle 133 on reader service card.

PRESENTATION GRAPHICS

ASAP WordPower 1.95

Everyone wants great-looking presentations, but who has the time or energy to learn a complicated presentation package? Software Publishing Corporation's (SPC) ASAP WordPower 1.95 proves that the best presentation graphics program isn't always the one with the most bells and whistles.

You won't find fancy collaboration or multimedia features in ASAP WordPower, just the basics for quickly creating great presentations. Use it as a stand-alone application or with your word processor. Its intelligent formatting lets you instantly convert outlined text from your word processor into slides. Or, if you're starting from scratch, just type in your text, click on the Preview tab, and select from 22 predesigned layouts, 14 designs, and 18 color schemes. It also imports pictures, logos, sounds, and PowerPoint 7.0 presentations and slides.



You can't create data charts in ASAP, but you can insert charts from applications such as Microsoft's Excel or SPC's Harvard ChartXL. While it can't handle the sophisticated multimedia effects of full-featured presentation products like Harvard Graphics, ASAP WordPower is ideal for those who need to create no-fuss presentations right away. Want to try before you buy? Download a free 30-day trial version of ASAP WordPower from a link at www.pccomputing.com or from www.spco.com.

LIESL LA GRANGE NOBLE

FILEBOX

ASAP WordPower 1.95

Pros: Build a sensational presentation in minutes.

Cons: Design templates are a bit inflexible; no built-in chart functions.

Verdict: Creating presentations doesn't get any easier than this.

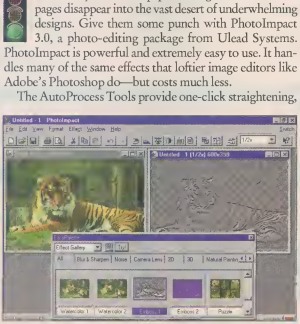
$99 est. street price
Software Publishing Corp.
(800) 336-8360
Reader Service No. 770

IMAGE EDITOR

PhotoImpact 3.0

Don't let your desktop-publishing efforts and Web pages disappear into the vast desert of underwhelming designs. Give them some punch with PhotoImpact 3.0, a photo-editing package from Ulead Systems. PhotoImpact is powerful and extremely easy to use. It handles many of the same effects that loftier image editors like Adobe's Photoshop do—but costs much less.

The AutoProcess Tools provide one-click straightening, cropping, and focusing. For editing images, it has contrast, brightness, and moiré controls. It's also simple to choose special effects. The EasyPalette window displays each installed effect in thumbnail previews. Select one and it's applied to your photo. You can even apply distortion effects to shapes in a photo and to text. There are also gradient fills and a large library of backgrounds to choose from.



Another handy device is PhotoImpact's Album feature, which displays a thumbnail of each item in your collection of images for quick and easy selection. One drawback, however, is the lack of support for GIF files.

Unless you're a professional designer, PhotoImpact has just about every feature you need to create high-impact special effects with your photos—at a low price.

JIM BURTON

FILEBOX

PhotoImpact 3.0

Pros: Exceptionally powerful and inexpensive image editor, yet it's still easy to use.

Cons: Doesn't support GIF files.

Verdict: Much of the power of a high-end image editor for less money.

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(800) 858-5323, (310) 523-9393
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FORMAN INTERACTIVE

Forman Interactive WINDOWS • WIN 3.1 • W 95

Item #	Description	Price Each
F54-1002	Internet Creator 3.0 WIN.	$99.99

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Solutions For Your CD Recording Needs!

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From $799.99

Just about anyone who needs to store data, music, video, graphics, files or documents could use this complete CD recording bundle. The CDs you create will hold more, cost less and be 100% compatible with the millions of CD-ROM players in the world. You can even reach into the world of multimedia CD recording. It has never been easier to create multimedia CDs! With a full 1MB buffer to enhance performance, these recorders are ready for the most demanding jobs. The CD-R 1002 is a 2X recorder, while the new CD-R 4000 is a 4X unit, recording at over 600KB/sec! Includes over $1800 of software including: Incat Systems, the #1 rated CD-ROM Stamping Software, Easy-CD Pro 95 CD-Recording software for Windows 95 and NT 3.51, Easy-CD Pro Multimedia 3.0 CD-Recording software for Windows 3.1, Easy-CD Pro CD-Recording software for Macintosh and CD-Workshop for Windows 3.1, and Easy CD Backup for Windows.

Awarded "Best Buy"—**PC World 1/96**

PC WORLD

Smart & Friendly

Item #	Description	Price Each
S117-1000	CDR 1002 Pro 2X Int.	$799.99
S117-1002	CDR 1002 Pro 2X Ext.	$899.99
S117-1004	CDR 4000 Pro 4X Ext.	$1379.99

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Just $99.99

Great idea! Simple to use! Now that the price of an IDE hard disk has dropped to pennies per megabyte, how would you like to own a multi-megabyte, external hard disk that you can take anywhere and quickly plug into any printer port? And what are you going to do with that old 210MB you recently replaced? Well, now you can take any IDE hard disk and install it in this inexpensive external case—that plugs into any parallel port for portable convenience wherever you go. Great for file transfers, backups, and especially laptops that need more disk space. Smash hit here at Tiger!

H45

Item #	Description	Price Each
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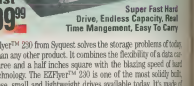
Just $299.99

Super Fast Hard Drive, Endless Capacity, Real Time Management, Easy To Carry

The EZFlyer™ 230 from Syquest solves the storage problems of today better than any other product. It combines the flexibility of a data cartridge three and a half inches square with the blazing speed of hard drive technology. The EZFlyer™ 230 is one of the most solidly built, easy-to-use, small and lightweight drives available today. It's made of proven, award-winning technology by the world's leading manufacturer. Users will find it a truly unique and powerful asset for years to come.

EZFlyer™ Uses The Fastest Data Storage Technology



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Item #	Description	Price Each
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30 DAY GUARANTEE. Everything you buy from Tiger is backed by our 30-Day Guarantee against defects. If your new Cyrix computer is defective, we will gladly and promptly repair or exchange it for a new unit. Sorry, no refunds. Of course, prices are always dropping on CPUs and Motherboards. Tiger does not give printed on those items in the event prices do drop.

Own A 6x86 For $399.99

Incredible Price Breakthrough On The New Cyrix 6x86. World's Fastest Windows PC! Why Not Own The Best—For Just $399.99

Why The Cyrix 6x86 Is The Fastest... The Cyrix 6x86 has architectural features not found on any other processor. Compared to the Intel Pentium, well there isn't much of a comparison. The Cyrix 6x86 is much closer to Intel's latest Pentium Pro (P6) than to the standard Pentium. But a Pentium Pro is not a good choice for today's software. It isn't optimized for x86 software—which includes all DOS, Windows 3.x and Windows 95 software. It's well known that the Pentium Pro runs Windows 20% slower than even the standard Pentium. Unfortunately, the Pentium Pro was designed for operating systems that aren't really operating yet. On the other hand, the Cyrix 6x86 is optimized for x86 software. The Cyrix 6x86 has the same advanced features of Intel's Pentium Pro, but they're all tailor made for the kind of applications you use. So when the game is to run DOS, Windows 3.x and Windows 95 applications, the Pentium Pro isn't even in the right ballpark. And the Cyrix 6x86 wins the pennant for the world's fastest processor. ***Superscalar*** *architecture provides two pipelines to execute multiple instructions in parallel. This means faster processing.* ***Superpipelining*** *increases the number of pipeline stages to avoid execution stalls. This allows the Cyrix 6x86 to perform a cache access in one clock cycle, versus the two clock cycles required on the Pentium.*

Out-of-order-completion *sets the faster instruction exit the pipeline out of order, saving processing time without disrupting the program flow.* ***80-bit floating point unit (FPU)*** *makes the Cyrix 6x86 perfect for CAD, spreadsheets, databases and all applications designed for serious number crunching. All told, the Cyrix 6x86 is the best choice for all of today's operating systems. Not just DOS and Windows 95, but also OS/2, Solaris, UNIX, NextStep and many more. And the Cyrix 6x86 makes the perfect network server. Performs flawlessly with Novell NetWare, Banyan Vines, Microsoft LAN, Windows NT.*

High-Performance Motherboard
You get the both of best world's with this amazing offer: the world's fastest processor in its class, and a high-performance, top-quality motherboard. For starters, you'll love the added performance the onboard PCI Controller delivers. Together with an Enhanced-IDE hard disk, you'll witness data transfer rates over 16 MB/second—nearly 3 times faster than earlier hard disks. And large 1 or 2 GB hard disks install with a single click—totally automatic. The printer port is the latest ECP/EPP design, which moves data over 10 times faster than earlier parallel ports. You get four serial ports, a game port, a parallel drive backups and more. The two serial ports contain top-notch 16550 UART chips, which are vital to reliable modem transfers at 28.8Kbd/second. The Plug and Play BIOS automatically configures PCI cards for hassle-free installation.

Motherboards: From Just $319.99

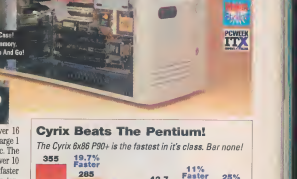
Cyrix Item #	Processor	Speed (MHz)	Bus	Power Supply	Price
A115-1090	Cyrix 6x86	P90+	PCI	Mid Tower	230 Watt	$399.99
A115-1092	Cyrix 6x86	P90+	PCI	Motherboard Only	$319.99

Also Available: Complete Upgrade Kits **Or Motherboard Only!**

System Features
- **Three 5.25" Drive Bays**
- **Two 3.5" External Drive Bays**
- **One 3.5" Internal Bay**
- **230 Watt Power Supply**

MOTHERBOARDS

Also Available.
Motherboard Only. Use your existing case—and enjoy all of the onboard 6x86 features. Takes only a few minutes to install and connect.
Includes Three PCI Local Bus Expansion Slots, four Industry-Standard ISA Slots, 256KB Pipelined Burst SRAM, Supports Up To 128MB Memory, Four 72-pin SIMM Slots, Supports Standard and EDO Memory, 32-Bit Enhanced PCI IDE Controller, Supports Up To Four IDE Devices, Mode 4 Hard Disk Rates To 22MB/Sec, Two 16550 High-Speed Serial Ports, ECP/EPP High-Speed Parallel Port, Plug And Play BIOS, Intel PCI Chipset, Award PCI BIOS, Flash ROM (Update Anytime BIOS), Auto-Sed Disk Detection, Setup, Supports Diskette Drives Up To 2.88MB, Anti-Virus Built Into BIOS, Green PC Power Management. Clock: 4X 50, 60, 66 MHz, Supports Cyrix And Pentium CPUs To 200MHz.



It's The World's Fastest Computer: The New Cyrix 6x86 Speedster!

The Next Generation In PC Technology Is Here Today! The Cyrix 6x86 Beats The Pentium! Prices Start At Just $499.99. Outstanding Value!

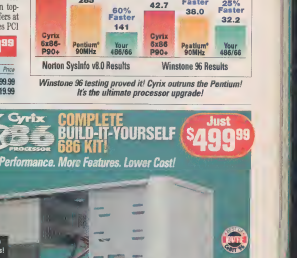
Want to run Windows 95 on the world's fastest computer? You can with these hot new processors from Cyrix! The new Cyrix 6x86 series have been tested, proven, and are now ready to run on your desktop like nothing you've ever seen before. It's the faster than the Pentium. Faster than the Pentium Pro. Faster than any other PC on Earth for running DOS, Windows 3.1, Windows 95, and all your favorite applications. And all this low price, this easy-to-install upgrade is unbeatable.

It's Faster Than You Think! Today's PCs are amazingly easy to remove and install parts. This kit includes a Cyrix CPU already mounted on a PCI motherboard, installed in this roomy case with your existing fan, plus simply transfer the hard disk, video card, floppy drive and RAM chips from your old PC (past a few screws and cables) and clip them into this hot new 6x86. It's easy! We've even included a video to show you how.

6th Generation Speed Devours The Pentium! The Cyrix 6x86 is power compatible with Windows 95, Windows NT, Windows for Workgroups, Windows 3.1, 3.0, DOS, NetWare and OS/2. Check the specs and you'll see the Cyrix is faster than any other PC processor. The Cyrix 6x86 processors are the absolute fastest available for both 16 and 32-bit Windows applications—the kind businesses use both now and in the future. Technically speaking, the 6x86 has features found only in the Pentium Pro and the Macintosh's PowerPC 604 chips. But unlike the Pentium Pro, the 6x86 is optimized for 16-bit and 32-bit Windows software. The fact is, Intel's Pentium Pro was built for systems that don't exist on the desktop yet. Cyrix's 6x86 was built for Windows 95, Windows 3.1 and DOS—all the applications that are important today and for many years to come. The 6x86 includes an 80-bit FPU for math calculations, 32 registers (versus 8 in the Pentium), dual pipelines for twice as many instructions as the Pentium, and lots of other technical advances. Bottom line: the Cyrix 6x86 is the fastest, fully compatible x86 processor in the world. Runs Windows 3.1, 95, NT, OS/2...

How about the motherboard? The world's fastest processor deserves the world's best motherboard. The Intel Triton chipset is the industry's most trusted, high-performance chipset for super-fast PCI bus speeds. The 256K of pipelined, write-back SRAM is the fastest made. It supports the fastest EDO RAM (or your existing RAM). The 16550 Serial ports and high-speed Parallel port are the best to be found. The onboard 32-bit PCI controller delivers maximum throughput for the fastest hard disks. With an Enhanced IDE hard disk, your data moves at over 16MB/second, easily 5 times faster than earlier hard disks. Even the BIOS Setup is amazingly easy. Use your mouse (or keyboard) to click once on "Auto Hard Disk Detect" and you're done installing a new bigger-than-a-gig drive. It's everything you'd expect from the world's fastest Windows PC.

Processor	ZIF Socket	Slots	Plug & Play	Max DRAM	ESD RAM Support	SIMM Sockets	Write Back Cache	Flash AMI BIOS	2-Socket 1 Parallel	E-IDE Controller	Cent Design	Power Supply	Kb Ikmat	Kit Price
6x86-P150+	PCI	Yes	4PCI, 4ISA	Yes	128MB	Yes	4	256 Pipelined	Yes	Yes	4	M/D	200	A113-8650	$499.99
6x86-P166+	PCI	Yes	4PCI, 4ISA	Yes	128MB	Yes	4	256 Pipelined	Yes	Yes	4	M/D	200	A113-8866	$799.99
6x86-P200+	PCI	Yes	4PCI, 4ISA	Yes	128MB	Yes	4	256 Pipelined	Yes	Yes	4	M/D	200	A113-8870	$999.99



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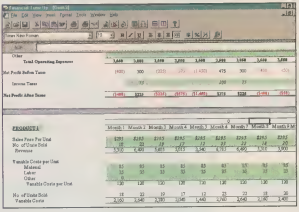
Financial Tune-Up

Does your business need a lift? Then maybe it's time for a financial tune-up.

Odyssey Computing's Financial Tune-Up squeezes dozens of financial-analysis tools into a $50 package. Don't let the low price fool you—this is a serious business product that uses modules to help you forecast cash flow, budget for long-term investments, and test a variety of "what if" scenarios designed to find the most profitable direction for your company.



The 90-page user's manual describes how to use the software modules and explains the financial theory behind each one—in language that even nonaccountants will understand.

Unfortunately, getting your data into Financial Tune-Up requires a significant time investment. The software provides no links to accounting packages. Instead you must painstakingly enter every number by hand. Fortunately, Financial Tune-Up uses helpful wizards to walk you through the process. It also saves all your information in a workbook that you can recall for later use.

Once you've massaged the numbers, show them off in a colorful graph with the click of a button. Paste the results into a word-processing document or export the file in a format compatible with Microsoft's Excel. Financial Tune-Up helps keep your business running smoothly. **CHRIS LINDQUIST**

FILEBOX

Financial Tune-Up

Pros: Excellent, well-written manual and easy-to-use financial tools.

Cons: Doesn't provide hooks to import data from accounting packages.

Verdict: An inexpensive way to get a grip on your bottom line.

$50 est. street price
Odyssey Computing
(800) 965-7224, (619) 675-3660
Reader Service No. 771

CLIP ART

The Plains & Santa Fe

Tired of cartoonish artwork? Looking for a classier cache of clip art? The Plains Collection and its companion volume, The Santa Fe Collection, are two solutions. The images in these discs won't wow you with high-tech special effects, but their historical accuracy has earned them a place in the U.S. postage stamp series American Indian Dance (to be issued this month).

Both collections feature editable, black-and-white illustrations (you can add color to them) representing Native American art. The Plains Collection offers over 200 designs in 11 categories, such as animals, people, and artifacts, plus 50 border designs. The Santa Fe Collection provides 500 images in 23 categories, including pottery and sand paintings. Some designs date back 1,000 years to the Anasazi culture.

All images come as ZIP-compressed WMF files on multiple discs. The installation process is somewhat tedious, and one complete collection requires as much as 30MB of hard disk space. A file-extraction utility and file viewer are included. You can't view files before extracting them, but a printed catalog is provided. If you need to add pizzazz to your work and want to avoid that canned-art look, these uncommon collections will get your documents the attention they deserve. **MARTY BEAUDET**

FILEBOX

The Plains Collection; The Santa Fe Collection

Pros: Designs are unique, interesting, and fully editable.

Cons: Hard-disk hogs; if you want color you have to add it.

Verdict: A useful collection of unique clip art.

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RT Computer Graphics
(800) 891-1600, (505) 891-1600
Reader Service No. 773

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If you want a database that helps sort out your business without putting you out of sorts, your decision is clear: FileMaker Pro 3.0 for Windows.

For more information, visit your nearest reseller, call Claris at 1-800-293-0617 ext. 1156, or visit us on the Web at www.claris.com

FILEMAKER PRO WOWS CRITICS, WINS HEARTS.

"Claris truly supports our ability to be cross-platform and gives us flexibility to choose which Windows environment works best for us."
—Andrew Dyer, Time Magazine's Technology Manager

"Claris FileMaker Pro 3.0 is one of the few end-user databases that actually lives up to its claims of simplicity."
—PC Computing, 4/96

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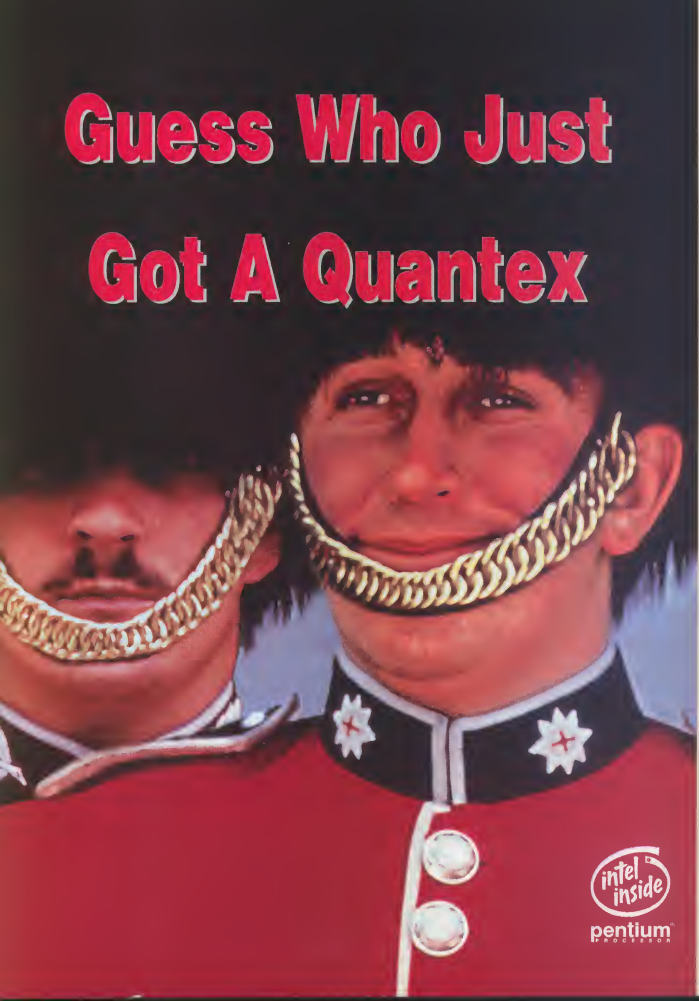
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pentium
PROCESSOR

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Designed for Microsoft Windows 95

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intel inside pentium PROCESSOR

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QP5/120 SM.....$1849
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QP5/166 SM.....$2149

QP5/166 SM-1 $2449

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- 512KB Pipelined Burst Coche
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QP5/120 SM-1.....$2149
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QP5/150 SM-1.....$2299

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- Microsoft Internet Explorer 2.0

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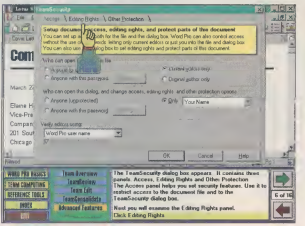
WORD PRO TUTORIAL

Exploring Word Pro 96

Team Computing, Lotus Assistants, Cycle Keys, SmartMasters . . . feeling overwhelmed by all the new features in Lotus's Word Pro 96? Let Exploring Word Pro 96 be your graphical, interactive guide to every component of this word processor.

Exploring Word Pro 96 lets you learn at your own pace by presenting the information in four sections. Word Pro Basics gives you an overview of Word Pro and walks you through the tasks you'll perform most often. When you're ready to dive into Word Pro's collaboration features, you can turn to the section devoted to Team Computing. The Reference Tools part includes step-by-step guides to the most commonly used features, a glossary, and answers to the most frequently asked questions. If you're still unsure about a thing or two, consult the Index. It doesn't just give you the definition of an InfoBox, for example, it can take you to the section where that topic is covered.



Most of the sections use presentation-type slides with screen shots of Word Pro to illustrate different features. Many screens are interactive and let you try out tasks like building a table. If you're upgrading or migrating from another word processor, Exploring Word Pro 96 helps make the transition a smooth one. LIESL LA GRANGE NOBLE

FILEBOX

Exploring Word Pro 96

Pros: Interactive screens teach you everything there is to know about Word Pro 96.

Cons: Could be a bit more interactive by linking directly to Word Pro.

Verdict: Learn the ins and outs of Lotus's Word Pro 96.

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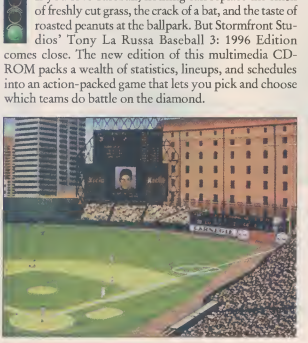
Apte
(800) 494-1112, (847) 866-1872
Reader Service No. 774

MULTIMEDIA GAME

Tony La Russa Baseball 3

If you love baseball, nothing can replace the smell of freshly cut grass, the crack of a bat, and the taste of roasted peanuts at the ballpark. But Stormfront Studios' Tony La Russa Baseball 3: 1996 Edition comes close. The new edition of this multimedia CD-ROM packs a wealth of statistics, lineups, and schedules into an action-packed game that lets you pick and choose which teams do battle on the diamond.



For fans who have always wanted to tour the major leagues' best ballparks, you can explore 28 different parks in realistic 3-D while listening to audio clips from baseball figures such as Hall of Famer Mel Allen and San Francisco Giants announcer Hank Greenwald. Bush leaguers can brush up on their game with video tips from former Oakland A's manager Tony La Russa, and try their hand at managing a team through a fantasy draft, in a minirotisserie league.

The CD includes dozens of digital color photos of major-league players, from Barry Bonds to Mark McGwire. However, this disc could stand an update—it still uses DOS graphics. Nevertheless, the advice and insights of Tony La Russa—currently manager of the Saint Louis Cardinals—make Stormfront's latest title a three-run homer. It's well worth the $40 admission price. RICH SCHWERIN

FILEBOX

Tony La Russa Baseball 3: 1996 Edition

Pros: Action-packed, stat-packed, and fun-packed.

Cons: The archaic DOS graphics could be better.

Verdict: This multimedia CD is a guaranteed hit for baseball fans.

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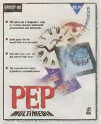

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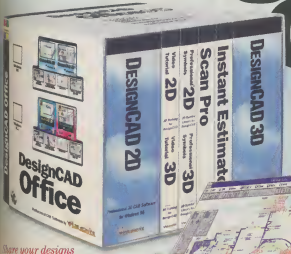

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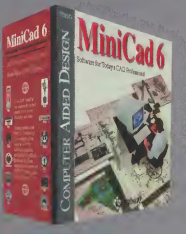

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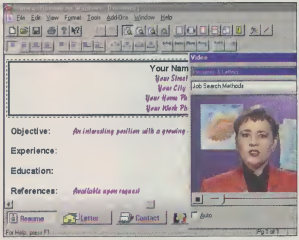

WinWay Résumé 4.0 is not your everyday how-to program. While it provides instructions on creating both a marketable and attractive résumé, it also includes sample résumés in every major career field, contact management features, and direct access to job sources on the Internet.

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KEDREN DILLARD

FILEBOX

WinWay Résumé 4.0

Pros: Build a résumé, prepare for an interview, and find a job.

Cons: You still have to pick up the phone and make the follow-up calls.

Verdict: Won't offer you a job, but can help you find one.

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MULTIMEDIA STRESS MANAGEMENT

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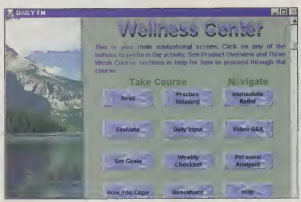
The phone is ringing off the hook, your boss wants to see you right away, and the deadline for that important project was yesterday. Stressed out? Take three deep breaths, slowly count to ten, and then go buy a copy of InnerFlow Software's Natural Stress Relief.

InnerFlow teamed up with Dr. Geoffrey D'Arcy, founder of a stress and pain clinic in Cambridge, Massachusetts, to create this package, which includes a CD-ROM and two cassette tapes. While the CD is somewhat useful, the real value is in the hypnotically relaxing audiotapes. D'Arcy calmly leads you through three weeks of sessions designed to ease the pressures on your mind, relax muscle tension, and help you sleep more soundly.



The core of Natural Stress Relief is the Wellness Center. Once you overcome its nonintuitive navigational interface, you can find immediate relief in a ten-minute on-the-spot exercise or take one of several stress-management courses, set goals, and evaluate your daily progress. There's also a library of health-related information and more than an hour of video clips of D'Arcy answering common questions about stress- and health-related issues.

While the onscreen courses are useful, many stressed-out individuals would do better to get *away* from their desktop computers and listen to the calming audiotapes. Either way, at $79 Natural Stress Relief is less expensive than a trip to the doctor for a stress-induced illness.

RICH SCHWERIN

FILEBOX

Natural Stress Relief

Pros: Calming audiotapes; a wealth of multimedia stress-management information.

Cons: Kludgy interface can make for slow navigation.

Verdict: Helps you balance your life and finally relax.

$79 est. street price
InnerFlow Software
(800) 928-9868, (617) 935-3494
Reader Service No. 777

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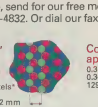

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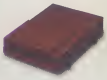

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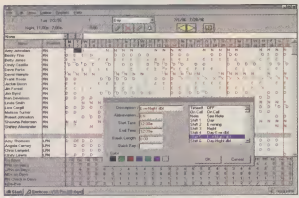
BUSINESS SCHEDULER

Visual Staff Scheduler

It's hardly rocket science, but arranging and assigning employee work shifts is frustrating and tedious. Visual Staff Scheduler (VSS) Pro 2.0 from Atlas Business Solutions, a graphical scheduling program, greatly simplifies this task for you.

VSS Pro lets you easily define and input employees' shifts and adjust them later. Once you've assigned shifts, you can change the number of days that appear on the schedule (up to 42 fit on a page), and customize the fonts and colors to create a professional-looking schedule. The program also prints out expense reports and personal schedules for each employee, and you can tabulate and print an employee's vacation days and sick days. The documentation is thorough, and a helpful online tutorial explains the basic functions of each feature and provides step-by-step guides to keep you from getting bogged down in the scheduling process.



Besides helping to assign shifts and reduce potential conflicts, VSS Pro records which workers will be on call, as well as your own miscellaneous notes. The only downsides are the lack of a print preview for schedules and reports, and no identification of onscreen icons.

VSS Pro is an effective tool that's more than up to the task of scheduling, and it's fairly easy to install and use. With your scheduling taken care of, all you need to worry about are those dreaded no-shows. **WAYNE KAWAMOTO**

FILEBOX

Visual Staff Scheduler Pro 2.0

Pros: Assigning work shifts has never been simpler.

Cons: No print-preview screen or identification of onscreen icons.

Verdict: A boon to anyone who gets hung up in scheduling work shifts.

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A quirky purple guy named McZee is the host and helper who provides inspiration in the Idea room. When kids enter the Project room, the rollerskating director, Melanie, guides them through projects designed to teach the building blocks of animation. Once they've mastered the basics, they create original movies in the Studio. 3D Movie Maker supplies the actors, sounds, scenes, and camera angles; kids put them together. When it's a wrap, kids screen their movies in the Theater.

3D Movie Maker is a blast. The resulting movies aren't *Citizen Kane*, but they're fun. WAV sound files can be imported to enhance the music and dialogue. More clickable hot spots in the theater would be nice, and the graphics are sometimes dark and murky. But overall, 3D Movie Maker is great for aspiring filmmakers of any age. **JULIE POLITO**

FILEBOX

3D Movie Maker

Pros: Great step-by-step guidance through the basics of making animated movies.

Cons: Why such gloomy graphics?

Verdict: Too bad professional animation software isn't as easy.

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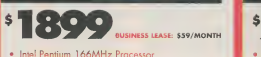
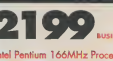


Microsoft Home Bundle



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- Terminal Velocity & Screamer 3D Games on CDs
- 28.8 Voice Fax/Modem with Software
- 6X EIDE CD-ROM Drive
- 16-bit Sound Card & Speakers
- 15" SVGA Flatscreen Color Monitor (Optional 17")
- 104-key Keyboard & Serial Mouse
- Smart Design 8-Bay Tower Case
- Microsoft Windows 95 on CD
- Choice of Lotus Smartsuite 96 or Microsoft Works, Money, Encarta 96 & Entertainment CD Bundle
- 1.44 MB, 3.5", Floppy Disk Drive
- Netscape Navigator WWW Browser, America On-Line & CampuServe software.*

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- MPEG Playback Video Software
- 28.8 Voice Fax/Modem with Software
- 8X EIDE CD-ROM Drive
- Plug 'n Play AWE32 Wavetable Sound Card
- 300 Watt 3D SURROUND Sound Speakers
- 15" SVGA Flatscreen Color Monitor (Optional 17")
- Microsoft Windows 95 on CD
- Choice of Lotus Smartsuite 96 or Microsoft Works, Money, Encarta 96 & Entertainment CD Bundle
- 1.44 MB, 3.5", Floppy Disk Drive
- 104-key Keyboard & Serial Mouse
- Smart Design 8-Bay Tower Case
- Netscape Navigatar WWW Browser, America On-Line & CampuServe software.*

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Drivers' Ed

CHAPTER 6.

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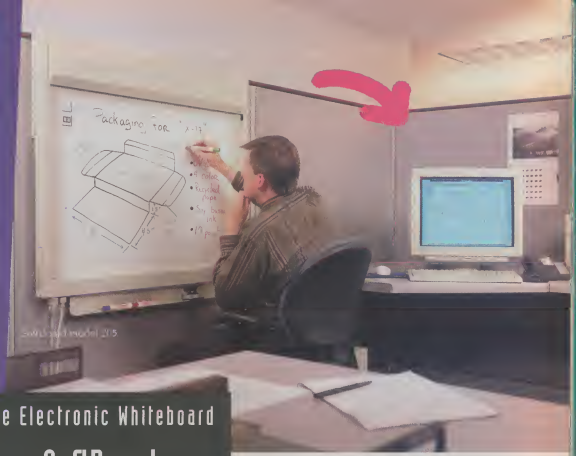

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For Windows & Macintosh

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PC Magazine 10

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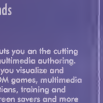

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INTERNET UTILITIES

Internet Starter Kit

If you're looking to learn more about the Net but don't just want to read another book on the subject, check out The Internet for Windows for Dummies Starter Kit. This collection of books and software provides everything you need to learn about the Internet.

The Starter Kit includes *The Internet for Dummies* and *The Internet for Dummies Quick Reference*. These two books are extremely handy guides to what the Internet is, how it works, and how to access it. Also in the box is *The 1994 Internet White Pages*, which offers useful information on Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and domain names, in addition to a multitude of e-mail addresses. You can purchase updates to the *White Pages* via subscription. (All the books in the Starter Kit were published in 1994 by IDG Books Worldwide.)

The bundled software includes NetManage's Internet Chameleon suite of apps for Web browsing, e-mail, Telnet, Gopher, FTP, and other basic Internet tasks. One drawback: You can use Chameleon only with the six specified ISPs.

The Internet for Windows for Dummies Starter Kit is well worth the $40 price. If you're not on the Net yet or you feel unclear on how to get started, this package is just what you need to get on the I-Way. MICHAEL BANKS

FILEBOX

The Internet for Dummies Starter Kit

Pros: A solid collection of Internet books and software.

Cons: Internet Chameleon works only with specified ISPs.

Verdict: Ready to tackle the Net? The Starter Kit has all you need to get going.

$40 list price
IDG Books Worldwide
(800) 762-2974
Reader Service No. 780

SCREEN SAVER

Totally Twisted

Fed up with flying toasters? Weary of warping stars? Bored by bouncing balls? Had it up to here with all the innocent and cozy screen savers on the market? You're in for a change of pace, because there *is* an alternative—and *alternative* is the key word.

Berkeley Systems—the company responsible for America's obsession with screen savers—has released a new collection called Totally Twisted. With an emphasis on blood and gore, this set consists of 13 fully animated, customizable screen savers that are absolutely sick and gross.

It starts innocently enough: You'll chuckle at the lighthearted whimsy of a bungee-jumping cow. But you might not exactly guffaw out loud when the cord unexpectedly breaks and the cow plunges to the ground, exploding in a spray of blood and bone. And what about the sweet little kitty playing on the grass? Isn't it cute? Uh-oh, here comes a lawn mower. You can guess what happens next.

Many of the animations parody Berkeley Systems' classic screen savers. Flying toasters become flying toilets. A hypnotic fish tank is transformed into a nasty toxic swamp.

At first it's funny to see this subversion of the stuffy world of screen savers. But the joke soon wears thin, and then it's just more of the same. LEANDER KAHNEY

FILEBOX

Totally Twisted After Dark Screen Saver

Pros: Not your average screen saver.

Cons: Not everyone likes toilet humor.

Verdict: Twisted images are amusing but they get old fast.

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They will lose presentations and reports to a computer crash.

They will blame their software or hardware when a power problem is really responsible.

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* A five-year power quality study conducted by Best Power's National Power Laboratory showed that the number of calls for computer service dropped 82% after installation of a UPS.

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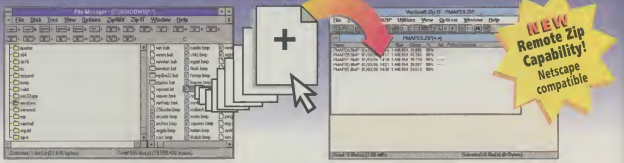
ZIPping Files
is as easy as Drag and Drop...



...With No Cryptic Commands

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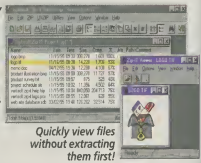
- ***Transferring files.*** Smaller files are easier, faster and cheaper to share online or on floppy.
- ***Ending hard disk clutter.*** Large files and infrequently used files can be compressed to take up less disk space.

All the Features YOU Need

- ***100% PKZIP compatible*** — the worldwide compressed file standard.
- ***Designed for Windows® 95, 3.1 and NT***
- ***Easily create compressed ZIP files*** — just drag and drop files to compress them. And you can create Windows-compatible self-extracting ZIP files to share with people that don't have Vertisoft Zip-It. They just point-and-click to extract the files they need.
- ***Extract any ZIP file in seconds*** — double-click a ZIP file to view a list of the ZIPped files within it. Then point-and-click to extract them.
- ***Instantly view and edit ZIPped files*** — double-click a ZIPped file to view it with its associated application or with one of Vertisoft Zip-It's many built-in viewers. You can even edit a ZIPped document without ever extracting it.
- ***Netscape Navigator™ compatible*** — new Vertisoft Zip-It plug-in module lets you easily view and extract ZIPped files on the Internet from within Navigator.

- ***Remotely view and extract ZIP files*** — new Remote Zip function lets you preview and extract portions of ZIP files over the Internet without downloading the entire ZIP file. (FTP site must have remote zip server.)



Quickly view files without extracting them first!

"...makes ZIPping files a breeze."
PC Magazine, May 14, 1996

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80% of your downtime isn't hardware or software related.

It just *looks* that way.

It's actually power problems masquerading as hardware or software problems.

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Best answers

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Call Best Power for your power protection answers.

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Think Your System is Optimized? Think Again.

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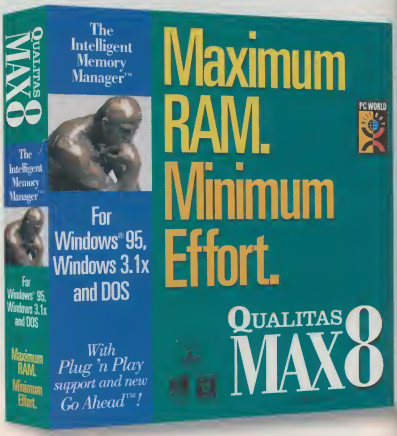

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By making Windows use extended memory instead of low DOS, new *Go Ahead* technology lets you open more Windows applications at once. As a result, for the first time, you can fully use Windows OLE.

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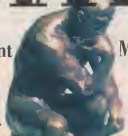

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03252

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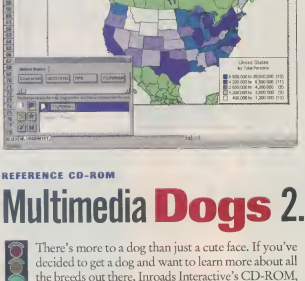
BUSINESS MAP DATA

Maps and Data

Want to map your sales or marketing data geographically in a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet? Just use the software's built-in mapping functions. But if Excel's mapping features are too limited, turn to MaconUSA's Maps and Data for Microsoft Office 95—a comprehensive collection of world maps and market statistics.

Maps and Data offers handsome line-art charts of each U.S. state and the world's major countries. These detailed maps show regions broken down to county or zip-code levels (or their equivalents) and display cities, main airports, highways, and more. You'll also find Census Bureau statistics (from 1990) that cover demographics such as population and income. Using an Excel spreadsheet, you can represent the data in colors for each zip code, county, state, or country, or use tools like dot densities, pie charts, and graduated symbols.



The collection comes with basic instructions on entering and displaying the data in Excel, and suggestions on how to use maps. It also contains information about most major countries, but offers complete maps only of Europe and the world. One hitch—you can't map and compare by continent.

If you've maxed out Excel's mapping abilities, use Maps and Data for Microsoft Office 95. You'll find you can put your business on the map—literally. WAYNE KAWAMOTO

FILEBOX

Maps and Data for Microsoft Office 95

Pros: A first-rate collection of maps for Excel.

Cons: Setup can be tricky.

Verdict: Anyone serious about making thematic maps for their business will find this collection useful.

$99 est. street price
MaconUSA
(800) 903-3127, (617) 254-2295
Reader Service No. 782

REFERENCE CD-ROM

Multimedia Dogs 2.0

There's more to a dog than just a cute face. If you've decided to get a dog and want to learn more about all the breeds out there, Inroads Interactive's CD-ROM, Multimedia Dogs 2.0, is a good place to turn.

A bone-shape toolbar is your navigational palette, and it includes brief breed narratives, informational videos, games, and other tidbits. For each type of dog you'll find a picture, a short historical write-up, and the breed characteristics.

However, the write-ups don't cover temperament and weight—two important factors in choosing your dog. You must fill out a Fetch profile of the characteristics you'd welcome in a dog, and Multimedia Dogs provides a list of suitable breeds.

The most useful information in Multimedia Dogs is not in the breed anecdotes or videos, but under the Topics option. There you'll find great advice and facts about everything from house training to dog shows.

Multimedia Dogs is a good place to start if you're trying to narrow down a breed search to a few select dogs. To get more detailed facts, you're better off visiting a dog-oriented Web site or your local bookstore. If you're already a dog owner, you'll enjoy learning about other breeds and playing the Name That Dog breed-identifying game included on the CD. KYLA K. CARLSON

FILEBOX

Multimedia Dogs 2.0

Pros: Offers facts, photos, and videos on most dog breeds.

Cons: Lacks detailed data; an annoying Multimedia Cats ad appears every time you exit.

Verdict: A good place to go for basic breed information if you've decided to get a dog.

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–PC Computing, 3/96

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intel inside

PENTIUM PRO PROCESSOR

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Diamond Scan 17HX	17"/15.7" DVI*	1600 x 1200/65 Hz NI	H:30-82 kHz, V:50-130 Hz	$849.00
Diamond Scan 20H	20"/18.6" DVI*	1600 x 1200/65 Hz NI	H:30-82 kHz, V:50-152 Hz	$1,699.00
Diamond Scan 20M	20"/18.6" DVI*	1024 x 768 I, 800 x 600 NI	H:15-38 kHz, V:45-90 Hz	$1,699.00
Diamond Scan 20LP	20"/18.6" DVI*	1024 x 768 I, 800 x 600 NI	H:15-38 kHz, V:45-90 Hz	$1,745.00
Professional Line				
Diamond Pro 17TX	17"/16.0" DVI*	1600 x 1200/66 Hz NI	H:30-86 kHz, V:50-152 Hz	$1,059.00
Diamond Pro 21TX	21"/19.7" DVI*	1600 x 1200/75 Hz NI	H:30-93 kHz, V:50-152 Hz	$1,899.00

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MITSUBISHI
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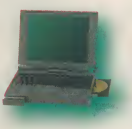

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Circle 166 on reader service card.

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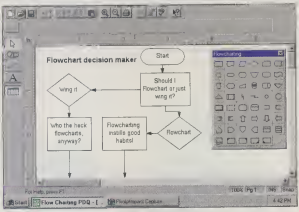
96PCC8

FLOWCHARTING

Flow Charting PDQ

Creating detailed flowcharting diagrams is tricky business. Want to make things a little easier on yourself? Flow Charting Professional Diagrams Quickly (PDQ) promises to get your flowcharting jobs done easily and expeditiously.

Flow Charting PDQ gives you standard flowcharting symbols, plus those for ANSI, ISO, and electronic circuits. The package also includes templates of symbols that you choose from. Just drag them onto your chart, type text into the symbols, draw lines to connect them, and you're set. The QuickConnect handle makes it easy to join two symbols together: Just click on one symbol's handle and drag it to another's. From there you can add arrows or jumps and change the line thickness.



The package is easy enough to use, but for the price it should include some type of wizard to guide flowchart novices through the process of creating complex diagrams. Other weaknesses are a lack of information on what kind of symbol is best to use for a specific operation, and no way to detect logical errors in a chart.

If you're starting from scratch, Flow Charting PDQ gives you the tools you need to create professional-looking flowcharts. If, however, you have experience with desktop-publishing or CAD software, you may find that for the price, the package you already have is all you need. **JIM BURTON**

FILEBOX

Flow Charting PDQ

Pros: Easy to use; includes ANSI, ISO, and electronic-circuit symbols.

Cons: Lacks a how-to wizard to guide new users through flowchart creation.

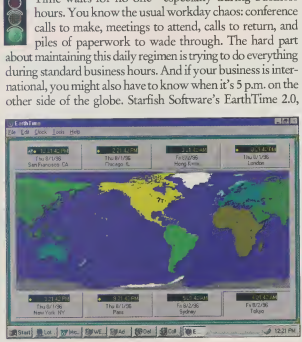
Verdict: Good for making professional flowcharts, but not for novices.

$135 est. street price
Patton & Patton Software Corp.
(800) 525-0082, (408) 778-8557
Reader Service No. 784

TIME-KEEPING UTILITY

EarthTime 2.0

Time waits for no one—especially during business hours. You know the usual workday chaos: conference calls to make, meetings to attend, calls to return, and piles of paperwork to wade through. The hard part about maintaining this daily regimen is trying to do everything during standard business hours. And if your business is international, you might also have to know when it's 5 p.m. on the other side of the globe. Starfish Software's EarthTime 2.0, available as both a stand-alone app and a plug-in for Netscape's Navigator 2.0, solves this problem in one quick-and-easy glance.



With EarthTime you can simultaneously monitor the local time in eight cities of your choice from your desktop. The animated worldwide map indicates areas of daylight and darkness, helping you plan the best time to place calls and send faxes across time zones. In addition, the software automatically adjusts to accommodate Daylight Saving Time.

Rather than using a variety of references to look up facts about other cities, you can access that data with a mouse-click. For example, you can check out a country's telephone codes and its local currency. Although not a necessity, EarthTime 2.0 is helpful for anyone who communicates around the world. For just $20 you can know the time in several countries at once. **KEDREN DILLARD**

FILEBOX

EarthTime 2.0

Pros: Forget your watch and you'll still know what time it is—all around the globe.

Cons: Of little value unless you do a lot of worldwide communication.

Verdict: A few dollars from petty cash buys you time all over the world.

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430CX	486DX4/100	8MB	720	10.4" Active-M	$2199
LTE5000	Pentium/75	8MB	810	11.3" D/S Scan	$2999
LTE5100	Pentium/75	8MB	810	10.4" Active-TF	$3599
LTE5100	Pentium/90	8MB	810	10.4" Active-TF	$3699
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4900C	PENTIUM/75	8MB	540	10.4" Act. TFT	$3799
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4GSH	PENTIUM/90	8MB	810	10.4" Act. TFT	$3699
4GSH	PENTIUM/100	16MB	1.0G	10.4" Act. TFT	$4299
4GEL	Pentium 100	8MB	810	11.3" Dual Scan	$3199
4GEL	Pentium 100	8MB	1.0G	11.3" Act. TFT	$4299
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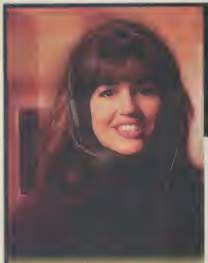

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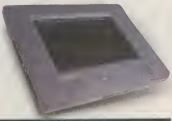

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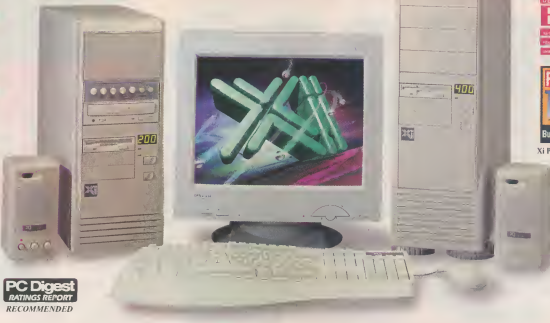

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System Shortlist

Your guide to the top PC configurations

Looking to buy a PC? Start with *PC Computing*'s guide to the most popular Pentium, Cyrix 6x86, and Pentium Pro configurations from today's top system makers. For up-to-the-minute pricing and product information plus live links to all of these companies' home pages, visit *PC Computing*'s Web site at www.pccomputing.com. **Compiled by Kedren Dillard**

Company/Product	Price*	CPU	RAM (MB)/ L2 Cache (K)	Hard Drive Capacity (GB)/Type	CD-ROM Speed	Graphics Adapter/ Chip Speed	Monitor Size	Reader Service No.
Acer America	**(800) 230-2237**							
Power Business Multimedia	$2,431	P133	16/256	1.26/IDE	8X	10/64	15"	201
Power Minitower	$3,529	P166	32/256	2.0/IDE	8X	2V/64	15"	202
Acma Computers	**(800) 786-6888**							
Acma zPower 133v	$1,695	P133	16/256	1.2/EIDE	8X	10/64	15"	203
Acma zPower 166	$2,195	P166	16/256	1.2/EIDE	8X	10/64	15"	204
Acma zPower Pro 200	$3,295	Pro200	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	10/64	15"	205
Advanced Logic Research	**(800) 444-4257**							
ALR Optima DT 5133	$2,399	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	4X	2D/64	15"	206
Evolution 5ST/166	$3,077	P166	16/256	1.6/EIDE	4X	2V/64	15"	208
Evolution Dual/6/200	$4,737	Pro200	32/256	1.6/EIDE	4X	4V/64	17"	209
Amax Engineering Corp.	**(800) 800-6328**							
Amax Pentium 133	$1,799	P133	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	210
Amax Pentium 166	$2,699	P166	16/256	2.0/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	211
Amax Pentium Pro 200	$3,299	Pro200	32/256	2.0/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	212
AST Computer	**(800) 876-4278**							
Bravo LC 5133	$1,860	P133	16/256	1.2/IDE	6X	2D/64	15"	213
Bravo LC 5166	$2,230	P166	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	216
Advantage 8Z9	$3,099	P200	16/256	2.0/IDE	8X	3D/64	15"	217
Bravo MS-T 6200	$3,335	Pro200	32/256	2.5/EIDE	8X	2W/64	15"	218
Austin Computer Systems	**(800) 338-1571**							
PowerPlus 133	$2,199	P133	16/256	1.6/IDE	8X	2D/64	15"	220
PowerPlus 166	$2,899	P166	16/256	2.0/IDE	8X	2V/64	17"	221
PowerPlus 200	$2,999	Pro200	16/256	1.2/EIDE	8X	2D/64	17"	222
Blackship	**(800) 531-7447**							
P-133 Centurion	$1,795	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	229
P-166 Centurion	$2,395	P166	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	230
P-200 Centurion Pro	$2,695	Pro200	32/256	2.1/EIDE	6X	4W/64	17"	246
Canon Computer Systems	**(800) 848-4123**							
Innova Media Tower Model MT 9330	$3,198	P133	16/128	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	17"	247
Innova Media Tower Model MT 9600	$3,798	P166	16/128	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	17"	254
Compaq	**(800) 345-1518**							
ProLinea 5133	$2,649	P133	16/256	2.0/IDE	4X	1D/64	15"	255
ProLinea 5166	$3,249	P166	16/256	2.0/IDE	4X	2D/64	15"	256
Deskpro XL 6200 M2100/P/D	$3,949	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	4X	2W/64	15"	257
Compulink Research	**(800) 611-1555**							
Infinity P0S-133	$1,569	P133	8/256	1.1/EIDE	4X	1D/64	14"	258
CLR Infinity P0S-166	$2,695	P166	16/256	1.7/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	262
Infinity PTS-A200	$3,995	P200	32/512	2.5/EIDE	8X	4V/128	17"	263
Comtrade Computer	**(800) 969-2123**							
Hyperspeed MPEG Multimedia	$1,725	P133	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	264

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE.

Company/Product	Price*	CPU	RAM (MB)/ L2 Cache (K)	Hard Drive Capacity (GB)/Type	CD-ROM Speed	Graphics Adapter/ Chip Speed	Monitor Size	Reader Service No.
Multimedia MPEG Dream Machine	$1,995	P166	16/512	1.7/EIDE	8X	2D/64	15"	265
Multimedia Wide-SCSI Powerstation	$3,625	Pro200	32/512	2.0/SCSI	8X	2D/64	17"	266
CyberMax	**(800) 443-9868**							
Family1 P133	$1,499	P133	8/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	267
Office 9 p166+	$2,249	P166	16/512	2.0/EIDE	4X	2D/64	17"	268
Cyrix	**(800) 340-7501**							
Cyrix 6x86 - P150	$2,199	C150	16/256	1.6/EIDE	8X	2D/64	15"	269
Cyrix 6x86 - P166	$2,999	C166	16/256	2.1/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	271
Dell Computer	**(800) 553-6054**							
Dimension P133t	$1,949	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	272
OptiPlex GXMT 5166	$3,203	P166	16/256	2.0/EIDE	4X	2V/64	17"	273
Dimension XPS 200s	$3,349	P200	32/512	2.5/EIDE	8X	2V/64	17"	274
Dimension XPS Pro 200n	$3,649	Pro200	32/256	2.5/EIDE	8X	2V/64	17"	275
Digital Equipment Corp.	**(800) 344-4825**							
Venturis FX 5133	$2800	P133	16/256	1.6/IDE	6X	1D/64	15"	276
Venturis FX 5166s	$3200	P166	16/256	1.6/IDE	6X	1D/64	15"	278
Celebris XL 6200	$6,352	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	4X	2D/64	17"	281
Epson America	**(800) 289-3776**							
ActionTower 8200	$1,899	P75	8/256	**/EIDE	4X	2V/32	15"	—
Everex Systems	**(800) 383-7391**							
Step Premier P133	$2,395	P133	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2W/64	15"	285
Step Premier P166	$3,995	P166	16/512	2.0/SCSI	6X	4W/64	17"	286
Step SP/Pro 200	$4,395	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	6X	4W/64	17"	287
Gateway 2000	**(800) 846-2000**							
Gateway P5-133	$1,899	P133	16/256	1.6/IDE	8X	2D/64	15"	288
Gateway P5-166	$2,499	P166	16/256	2.5/IDE	8X	2D/64	17"	291
Gateway 66-200	$4,599	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	4X	4W/64	17"	293
Hewlett-Packard	**(800) 322-4772**							
Vectra VL4 5/133 Model 128D MMX	$3,776	P133	16/256	1.28/IDE	4X	2W/64	15"	—
Vectra VL4 5/166 MT Model 162D MMX	$3,958	P166	16/256	1.3/IDE	4X	2W/64	15"	—
Vectra XU 6/200 Model 200D	$7,231	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	4X	2W/64	15"	—
HiQ Computer Systems	**(800) 827-5836**							
Saturn Station	$1,599	P133	16/256	1.2/IDE	6X	1V/64	15"	299
Apollo Station	$2,235	P166	16/512	2.0/EIDE	6X	2V/64	15"	300
Orion Station	$3,065	Pro200	32/256	2.5/EIDE	6X	2V/64	17"	301
IBM	**(800) 426-2968**							
PC 33D	$2,060	P133	16/256	1.2/IDE	4X	1V/64	15"	302
PC 35D	$3,893	P166	32/256	1.2/IDE	6X	2V/64	17"	303
PC 36D	$6,210	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	6X	4V/64	15"	304
Intergraph	**(800) 763-0242**							
Intergraph TD-30	$3,960	P133	16/512	1.0/SCSI	4X	2W/64	15"	305

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System Shortlist

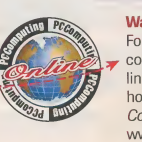
Your guide to the top PC configurations

Company/Product	Price*	CPU	RAM (MB)/ L2 Cache (K)	Hard Drive Capacity (GB)/Type	CD-ROM Speed	Graphics RAM/ Chip Speed	Monitor Size	Reader Service No.
Intergraph TD-30	$9,014	P166	16/512	1.0/SCSI	4X	2W/64	17"	306
Intergraph TD-300	$7,720	Pro200	32/256	1.0/SCSI	4X	2W/64	21"	307
Maximus Computers	(800) 862-2888							
Magna Media	$1,729	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	308
Magna Artist Media	$2,899	P166	16/512	2.0/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	309
Magna Artist Pro Multimedia	$5,399	Pro200	32/512	4.0/SCSI	6X	4W/128	17"	310
Micro Express	(800) 888-8900							
MicroFlex-PCI/133	$1,499	P133	16/256	1.2/IDE	4X	2D/64	15"	311
MicroFlex-PCI/166	$2,295	P166	16/512	1.2/IDE	4X	2D/64	15"	312
MicroFlex-PCI/Pro200	$2,995	Pro200	32/256	2.4/IDE	6X	2D/64	15"	313
Micron Electronics	(800) 362-7309							
P133 Millennia	$2,199	P133	16/512	1.6/EIDE	8X	2D/64	15"	314
P166 Millennia	$2,799	P166	16/512	2.1/EIDE	8X	2D/64	17"	315
P200 Millennia	$3,158	P200	16/512	2.5/IDE	6X	2D/64	17"	316
Millennia Pro Plus 200	$4,199	Pro200	32/256	2.0/SCSI	6X	2D/64	17"	329
MidWest Micro	(800) 445-2015							
MidWest Micro P5/133	$2,099	P133	16/256	2.5/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	321
MidWest Micro P5/166	$2,799	P166	16/512	2.5/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	322
MidWest Micro Office Pro 200	$6,499	Pro200	64/256	4.0/SCSI	6X	4W/64	21"	323
MultiWave Technology	(800) 234-3358							
Ultra Power	$2,215	P133	16/512	2.0/IDE	8X	2D/64	17"	324
Ultra Power	$2,485	P166	16/512	2.0/IDE	8X	2D/64	17"	325
Pro Power	$2,955	Pro200	16/256	1.6/IDE	6X	2D/64	15"	326
NEC Technologies	(800) 632-4636							
PowerMate V133	$2,544	P133	16/256	1.6/IDE	6X	2D/64	15"	327
PowerMate P166	$2,809	P166	16/256	1.6/IDE	6X	3W/64	15"	328
PowerMate Pro200	$3,269	Pro200	16/256	2.0/IDE	8X	3D/64	15"	329
Nexar Technologies	(888) 639-2772							
Nexar Model 7100	$1,999	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	1W/64	15"	331
Nexar Model 9100	$2,799	P166	16/512	2.1/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	332
Packard Bell Electronics	(800) 733-5858							
Packard Bell Platinum PC	$2,349	P133	16/256	1.6/IDE	4X	1D/64	15"	333
Packard Bell Platinum Pro	$3,149	P166	24/256	2.0/IDE	6X	1D/64	15"	334
PerComp Microsystems	(800) 858-8688							
Family Media 133 MHz	$1,699	P133	8/256	1.2/IDE	6X	2V/64	15"	335
Professional 166 MHz	$2,849	P166	16/512	1.6/IDE	8X	2D/64	17"	336
Polywell Computers	(800) 999-1278							
Poly 5133P8	$2,150	P133	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2V/64	17"	393
Poly 5166P	$2,475	P166	16/256	2.1/EIDE	6X	2V/64	17"	394
Poly P5200IP5	$2,758	P200	32/512	2.1/EIDE	8X	2D/128	17"	395
Poly P6-200TD	$2,995	Pro200	32/256	2.1/EIDE	6X	4D/128	17"	396
ProGen Systems	(800) 848-8777							
Discover MPE6 I	$1,559	P133	8/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	337
Discover MPE6 II	$1,969	P166	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	338
Nova	$3,399	Pro200	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	17"	363
Quantex Microsystems	(800) 767-8686							
QPS/133 M-4	$2,199	P133	16/512	1.6/EIDE	8X	2D/64	17"	364
QPS/166 SM-2	$2,849	P166	32/512	2.5/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	365
QPS/200 SM-2	$3,299	P200	32/512	2.5/6B	8X	2W/64	17"	366

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE

Company/Product	Price*	CPU	RAM (MB)/ L2 Cache (K)	Hard Drive Capacity (GB)/Type	CD-ROM Speed	Graphics RAM/ Chip Speed	Monitor Size	Reader Service No.
QP6/200 WS-2	$4,199	Pro200	32/512	4.0/SCSI	6.7	4W/64	21"	367
Robotech Corp.	(800) 533-0633							
Cobra XL1/2P133	$3,447	P133	16/512	2.1/IDE	8X	2D/64	17"	368
Cobra XL1/2P166	$5,086	P166	16/512	2.1/IDE	8X	4V/64	17"	369
Cobra XL1/2P200	$6,366	P200	16/512	2.1/IDE	8X	4V/64	17"	370
Cobra XLP/P200	$6,542	Pro200	32/512	2.1/IDE	8X	8V/64	21"	372
Swan Technologies	(800) 554-6743							
Office 133	$1,720	P133	8/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	373
PowerHouse 166	$2,199	P166	16/256	2.1/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	374
PowerHouse-Deluxe 200	$2,799	Pro200	16/256	2.5/EIDE	8X	2D/64	17"	375
Tegram System	(800) 824-7267							
Thunderbolt Office Station	$1,495	P133	16/256	1.2/IDE	4X	1V/64	15"	376
Thunderbolt Virtual Studio	$2,295	P166	16/512	1.6/EIDE	6X	2W/64	17"	377
Thunderbolt Corporate /16	$2,995	Pro200	32/512	2.5/EIDE	6X	2W/64	17"	378
Tri-Star Computer Corp.	(800) 844-2983							
Multi-CAD	$2,095	P133	16/256	1.2/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	380
Tri-CAD	$2,750	P166	32/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	17"	381
Tri-CAD 200	$3,045	P200	32/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	17"	834
StarStation	$3,795	Pro200	32/256	2.1/EIDE	6X	2V/64	17"	357
USA Flex	(800) 872-3539							
Value Workstation	$1,795	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	358
Office Workstation	$2,495	P166	16/256	2.0/EIDE	8X	2W/64	17"	359
Performance Workstation	$3,495	Pro200	32/256	2.5/EIDE	8X	4W/64	17"	360
US Computer Direct	(800) 787-4947, ext. 32							
Freedom LX	$1,799	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	361
Freedom LX	$2,049	P166	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	362
Microstar Pantium Pro	$4,182	Pro200	32/256	2.0/EIDE	6X	2V/64	17"	383
XI Computer	(800) 432-0488, (714) 498-0858 (Calif.)							
P133 MTower SP	$2,299	P133	16/512	1.7/EIDE	6X	2D/64	17"	384
P166 MTower SP	$2,599	P166	16/512	1.7/EIDE	8X	2D/64	17"	385
Pro200 MTower SP	$3,399	Pro200	16/256	2.5/EIDE	8X	2D/64	17"	386
Zenith Data Systems	(800) 582-0524							
Z-Station GT 500 Series	$2,149	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	8X	1S6/64	15"	387
Z-Station GT 500 Series	$2,899	P166	16/256	2.1/EIDE	8X	1S6/64	17"	388
Z-Station GT 500 Series	$3,099	Pro200	16/256	2.1/EIDE	8X	2S6/64	17"	389
Zenon Technology	(800) 880-8119							
Supermedia 6x	$1,629	P133	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	390
Supermedia 6x	$1,899	P166	16/256	1.6/EIDE	6X	2D/64	15"	391
Zenon Client Server Workstation	$3,949	Pro200	32/256	4.0/SCSI	8X	2W/64	17"	392

*ESTIMATED STREET PRICE



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- 16-bit, SoundBlaster compatible audio
- Up to 11.3" Super VGA Active Matrix displays

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Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 90	9.5" Active	8/720MB	$3139
Pentium 133	11.3" Active SVGA	16MB/1.2GB	4499*
*Features 28.8 fax/modem			

Satellite 100/110

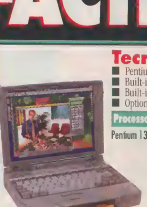
- Pentium 75 & 100MHz processors
- Up to 11.3" Dual Scan and Active Matrix displays
- Built-in AC adapter
- Fast system performance with EDO RAM memory

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 75	10.4" Dual Scan	8/504MB	$1799
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	8/810MB	2299
Pentium 100	11.3" Active SVGA	8/810MB	2799

Tecra 720

- Pentium 133MHz processor
- Built-in 28.8 fax/modem
- Built-in 6X CD-ROM drive
- Optional DeskStation capabilities

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1.6B	$6299


Tecra 720

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Satellite Pro 420

- Built-in 6X CD-ROM drive
- Pentium 100MHz processor
- 11.3" Dual Scan & Active Matrix displays
- Built-in SoundBlaster Pro compatible audio

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	8/810MB	$2999
Pentium 100	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1.3GB	3899

Satellite 420

Tecra 500

- Pentium 120MHz processor
- Built-in 6X CD-ROM drive (500CDT model only)
- 16MB EDO RAM memory
- 12.1" Super VGA displays

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 120	12.1" Dual Scan SVGA	16MB/1.3GB	$3999
Pentium 120	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1.3GB	4999*
*Features 6X CD-ROM drive			

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- 10.4" & 11.3" SVGA displays
- 32-bit PCI Local bus graphics
- 16-bit sound, speakers and mic (TP365XD)
- Infrared port for wireless communications
- External Floppy drive (TP365XD)

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	10.4" Dual Scan SVGA	8/810MB	$2499
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	8/810MB	2799*
Pentium 100	11.3" Active SVGA	8/810MB	2899
Pentium 120	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	8MB/1.1GB	3299*
Pentium 120	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1.1GB	3699*

*Includes built-in 4X CD-ROM drive

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- Only 4.1lbs and 1.2" thick!
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- Built-in 16-bit SoundBlaster compatible audio
- External floppy drive reduces weight
- EDO RAM memory enhances performance
- Infrared transceiver for wireless communication

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	8/810MB	$2699
Pentium 120	12.1" Active SVGA	8/810MB	3749
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	8/1.1GB	4199

ThinkPad® 560

FUJITSU
PC Corporation

Montego

- Only 6 lbs weight
- 8/760 RAM memory
- Built-in 16-bit SoundBlaster compatible audio
- 100MHz Pentium processor

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	10.4" Active SVGA	8MB/1GB	CALL

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Monte Carlo

Monte Carlo

- Up to 133MHz Pentium processors
- Built-in 6X CD-ROM drive
- 2MB video memory
- 16MB RAM memory (selected models)

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	11.3" Active SVGA	8/810MB	CALL
Pentium 120	11.3" Active SVGA	16MB/1GB	CALL
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1GB	CALL

NEC

NEC Versa 4000

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 75	10.1" Active	8/810MB	$3799*
Pentium 90	10.4" High Res	8/810MB	3799
Pentium 90	10.1" Active	8/810MB	3999*
Pentium 120	10.4" High Res.	8MB/1GB	4099
*Features built-in 4X CD-ROM drive			

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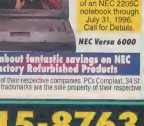
NEC Versa 4000

NEC Versa 6000

- Up to Pentium 133MHz processors
- Built-in 6X CD-ROM drive
- 2MB video memory
- Built-in 28.8 cellular fax/modem

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1.1GB	$5399
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1.3GB	5999
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1.4GB	6499


NEC Versa 6000

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Digital HiNote VP

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	10.4" Dual Scan	B/B10MB	$2029
Pentium 100	10.4" Active	B/B10MB	2499*

*Includes 16-bit stereo sound, microphone & speaker

Digital HiNote Ultra II

- Up to 133MHz mobile Pentium processor
- 256KB of Level 2 cache
- 10.4" Active Matrix display
- 16mm trackball with sculpted palm rest

as low as $2999 FR-P84WE-AA

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	10.4" Active SVGA	8MB/1.08GB	$3769
Pentium 120	10.4" Active SVGA	8MB/1.08GB	4059
Pentium 133	10.4" Active SVGA	8MB/1.35GB	4439

HiNote Ultra II shown with external floppy dock

Shown Actual Size (in closed position)

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- Built-in 16-bit SoundBlaster compatible sound, microphone & 2 speakers (selected models)

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	B/515MB	$2199
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	16MB/1GB	2799*
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	B/MB/1GB	2999*†
Pentium 120	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1GB	3869*†
Pentium 120	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1GB	3999*††
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1GB	5699*†

* Includes built-in sound system
† Includes built-in 4X CD-ROM drive
†† Includes built-in 6X CD-ROM drive

Sharp PC Series

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- 11.3" Dual Scan & Active display with 800x600 resolution
- 8MB/8 & 1.2GB removable hard drives
- Built-in SoundBlaster 16 Vibra chipset

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	B/800MB	$3299
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan SVGA	8MB/1.2GB	3779
Pentium 133	11.3" Active SVGA	B/800MB	4249
Pentium 133	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1.2GB	4729

AST Ascentia J

- Integrated 14.4/14.4 data/fax modem and audio
- PCI bus architecture with 256KB Level 2 cache
- 10.4" SVGA (800x600) resolution Dual Scan and Active display

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 75	10.4" Dual Scan SVGA	B/500MB	$2149
Pentium 100	10.4" Dual Scan SVGA	B/800MB	2629
Pentium 100	10.4" Active Matrix SVGA	B/800MB	2829
Pentium 133	10.4" Active Matrix SVGA	B/800MB	3299

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COMPAQ

Contura 430

- 10.4" Active & Dual Scan displays
- 486DX4/100 processors
- Optical trackball – smoother and more reliable
- High capacity 720MB hard drives
- Compaq 3-year worldwide warranty

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
486DX4/100	10.4" Dual Scan	B/720MB	$2369
486DX4/100	10.4" Active	B/720MB	2869

LTE 5000 Series

- Up to 133MHz Pentium processors with 256KB cache
- 32-bit PCI Local bus graphics
- 8MB or 16MB RAM exp. up to 72MB or 80MB (differs by model)
- Built-in 16-bit sound, microphone & 2 speakers
- MultiBay – holds CD-ROM, 2nd hard drive, floppy or 2nd battery
- Up to 1.35GB hard drives
- Built-in infrared for wireless communications
- Supports NiMH batteries
- Optional MPEG and TV video adapter

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 75	10.4" Dual Scan	B/510MB	$2830
Pentium 75	11.3" Dual Scan	B/810MB	3210
Pentium 75	10.4" Active	B/810MB	3589
Pentium 90	10.4" Active	B/810MB	3970
Pentium 90	10.4" Active	B/810MB	4340*
Pentium 120	10.4" Active	16MB/1.35GB	4720
Pentium 120	11.3" Active SVGA	16MB/1.35GB	5099
Pentium 133	12.1" Active SVGA	16MB/1.35GB	5669

* Features built-in CD-ROM drive

LTE 5000

TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

Extensa 510/570

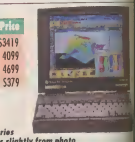
Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 100	10.4" Dual Scan	B/810MB	$1999
Pentium 100	11.3" Dual Scan	B/810MB	2929*
Pentium 100	10.4" Active	8MB/1.2GB	3909*

* Features 6X CD-ROM drive

TravelMate Series

- Pentium 90, 120 & 133MHz processors
- 10.4" & 11.3" SVGA, Active Matrix display
- Dual Lithium Ion batteries
- 32-bit PCI Local bus graphics
- 2MB video memory
- 256KB Level 2 cache
- 1280x1024 external monitor resolution
- 16-bit SoundBlaster compatible audio
- External PCI bus
- Windows 95 **AND** Windows for Workgroups

Processor	Screen	RAM/HD	Price
Pentium 90	10.4" Active SVGA	8MB/1.2GB	$3419
Pentium 120	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1.2GB	4099
Pentium 133	11.3" Active SVGA	8MB/1.2GB	4699
Pentium 133	11.3" Active SVGA	16MB/2.1GB	$379



TravelMate Series
Product differs slightly from photo

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- Integrated 3-D surround sound (selected models)
- 64-Bit PCI Local bus graphics
- AST Works II navigation software – featuring "SPOT"
- Enhanced IDE interface-fast disk performance

Processor	RAM/HD	CD-ROM	Price
Pentium 100	8MB/1.2GB	6X	$1399
Pentium 133	16MB/1.2GB	6X	1799
Pentium 150	16MB/1.6GB	6X	2149
Pentium 100	16MB/1.2GB	6X	1599
Pentium 133	16MB/1.6GB	6X	2099
Pentium 150	16MB/2.1GB	6X†	2399
Pentium 166	16MB/2.1GB	6X†	2519

† with 3 disc CD changer

Monitors priced separately

Monitors priced separately

AST Advantage Adventure

150@166MHz PENTIUM

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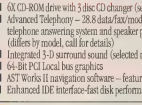
NEC

All Models Optimized for WIN 95



Monitors priced separately

NEC Ready Multimedia

Ready Multimedia For Windows 95

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- Built-in MPEG support for full screen, full motion video
- 32-bit PCI controller for fast disk performance
- LOADS of FREE software

*6X CD-ROM on 7610

Processor	RAM/HD	CD-ROM	Price
Pentium 120	8MB/1.2GB	4X	$1650
Pentium 133	8MB/1.2GB	6X	1850
Pentium 150	8MB/1.2GB	6X	2040
Pentium 120	16MB/1.6GB	6X	1940
Pentium 133	16MB/1.6GB	6X	2140
Pentium 150	16MB/2GB	6X	2530
Pentium 166	16MB/2GB	6X	2720

Monitors priced separately

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HP LaserJet 5L printer (8M, 4ppm, 600dpi) C3941A	$479.00
HP LaserJet 5P printer (8M, 4ppm, 600dpi) C3150A	879.99

HP InkJet Printers

HP DeskJet 340 C2655A	$289.99†
HP DeskJet 320 (bundle) C2627AFABA	199.99†
HP DeskJet 600C printer C4547A	199.00†
HP DeskJet 660Cse printer C2164A	299.00†
HP DeskJet 660Cxi printer C4548A	369.00*†
HP DeskJet 682C C4567AABA	329.00†
HP DeskJet 820Cse printer C4548AABA	399.00†
HP DeskJet 855C printer C4551A	449.00†
HP DeskJet 870Cxi C8774A	499.00†
HP DeskJet 1600C printer C3949A	1299.99†

Home Office Products

HP OfficeJet LX C2891A	$ 399.99
HP FAX 700 C3530A	509.99

†Includes Family Fast Package
*Includes HP Color Kit

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C4548A
HP DeskJet 660Cse

C3941A
HP LaserJet 5L

Hewlett-Packard Scanners

HP ScanJet 4L scanner C2577A	$ 949.99
HP ScanJet 4S portable scanner C1127A	319.00

HP Tape Drives

HP T1000 (internal) C4320RB	$ 169.00
HP T1000e (portable) C4326RB	219.99
HP SureStore, 2GB, DAT, Int C1525E	899.99
HP SureStore, 8GB, DAT, Ext C1529E	1220.00

Hard Drives

Iomega ZIP Drive Portable #100132IOMEGA $199.99*

Iomega
- ZIP Drive, SCSI (100D1) ..... $ 199.95
- ZIP Drive, Portable, Parallel port interface (100M5A) 199.95
- Jaz Drive, SCSI, External (10134) 650.00

Maxtor
- 1.0GB E-IDE, Kit (KOI71260A) ..... $ 265.00
- 1.6GB E-IDE, Kit (KOI71620A) 329.00
- 2.1GB E-IDE, Kit (KOI72000A) 360.00

Seagate
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- 2.1GB SCSI-2 (ST32430N) 699.99
- 4.3GB SCSI-2, External (ST12400N) 899.00
- 1.0GB, 3535-2 (ST51230N) 1070.00

Conner
- 540 MB E-IDE, Internal (CFS420CI-001) ..... $ 199.00
- 1.2GB, 5.25", 12ms, Internal (CFS1275I) 219.95

Western Digital
- 1.0GB E-IDE (AC31200) ..... $ 263.00

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Colorado
- Jumbo 250MB, Internal (IDJUSNRO) ..... $ 109.00
- Jumbo 1400, 1.36GB, Internal (IDJSDDB) 229.99
- Trakker 2.4GB, Internal (FT-2500) 990.00
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- T1000e, 800MB (Travan), Portable (C4326RB) 219.99
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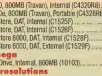
Iomega
- Ditto Dino, Internal, 800MB (10102) ..... $ 129.00

Microsolutions
- BackPack 800T, (Travan), Portable (143010) ..... $ 189.99

Monitors



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- Trinitron, 17", 1280x1024ni, .25mm (CPD-17SF2) 799.00
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1MB X 9-80NS SIMM	50	1MB X 9-70NS 4 CHIP SIMM	20
4MB X 9-70NS SIMM	50	1MB X 9-80NS 4 CHIP SIMM	21
4MB X 9-80NS SIMM	50	1MB X 9-70NS 9 CHIP SIMM	28
30 PIN 8 BIT 3IPPS		1MB X 9-80NS 9 CHIP SIMM	25
1MB X 9-60NS SIPP	25	1MB X 9-70NS 9 CHIP SIMM	25
1MB X 9-70NS SIPP	30	1MB X 9-80NS 9 CHIP SIMM	25
4MB X 9-60NS SIPP	35	4MB X 9-70NS SIMM 9 CHIP	104
4MB X 9-70NS SIPP	35	256K X 4-60NS/70NS SIMM	12
256K X 8-70NS SIPP	15	72 PIN MEMORY	
30 PIN PARITY/9-BIT		1MB X 36-70NS SIMM	58
1MB X 9-70NS SIMM 3 CHIP	58	512 X 36-2MB-70NS	58
4MB X 9-70NS SIMM 3 CHIP	58	512 X 36-2MB-80NS	60
1MB X 9-60NS SIMM 3 CHIP LOGIC	45	1MB X 36-4MB-70NS 16MB LOGIC	45
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2X36-8MB-70NS/16MB MAJOR	80
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8X36-32MB-70NS LOGIC	295
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8X36-32MB-70NS MAJOR	325
8X36-32MB-60NS MAJOR	325
16X36-64MB-70NS/60NS	595
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	8MB	58-000-2MB	CALL
	16MB	58-000-4MB	CALL
	32MB	58-000-8MB	CALL
Premmia GX 4100, 4/100, 4/66LP, Bravo 4/66, Bravo 4/66e, Premmia LX 4100, Premmia LX 4/66, Premmia LX 4/100, Premmia LX 4/133, Premmia LX 4/166, Premmia LX 4/200, Premmia LX P60, Premmia LX P66, Premmia LX P75, Premmia LX P90, Premmia LX P100, Premmia LX P120, Premmia LX P133, Premmia LX P166, Premmia LX P200, Bravo 5/75, Bravo 5/90, Bravo 5/100, Bravo 5/120, Bravo 5/133, Bravo 5/166, Bravo 5/200, Bravo MX 5/75, Bravo MX 5/90, Bravo MX 5/100, Bravo MX 5/120, Bravo MX 5/133, Bravo MX 5/166, Bravo MX 5/200, Ascent MX 5/75, Ascent MX 5/90, Ascent MX 5/100, Ascent MX 5/120, Ascent MX 5/133, Ascent MX 5/166, Ascent MX 5/200, Advantage MX 5/75, Advantage MX 5/90, Advantage MX 5/100, Advantage MX 5/120, Advantage MX 5/133, Advantage MX 5/166, Advantage MX 5/200, Bravo 4/33e, Bravo 4/66e, Premmia LX 1100, MS4/5/6/7, 4/33LP, P150	4MB	58-000-1MB	CALL
	8MB	58-000-2MB	CALL
	16MB	58-000-4MB	CALL
	32MB	58-000-8MB	CALL
Premmia GX 4100, 4/100, 4/66LP, Bravo 4/66, Bravo 4/66e, Premmia LX 4100, Premmia LX 4/66, Premmia LX 4/100, Premmia LX 4/133, Premmia LX 4/166, Premmia LX 4/200, Premmia LX P60, Premmia LX P66, Premmia LX P75, Premmia LX P90, Premmia LX P100, Premmia LX P120, Premmia LX P133, Premmia LX P166, Premmia LX P200, Bravo 5/75, Bravo 5/90, Bravo 5/100, Bravo 5/120, Bravo 5/133, Bravo 5/166, Bravo 5/200, Bravo MX 5/75, Bravo MX 5/90, Bravo MX 5/100, Bravo MX 5/120, Bravo MX 5/133, Bravo MX 5/166, Bravo MX 5/200, Ascent MX 5/75, Ascent MX 5/90, Ascent MX 5/100, Ascent MX 5/120, Ascent MX 5/133, Ascent MX 5/166, Ascent MX 5/200, Advantage MX 5/75, Advantage MX 5/90, Advantage MX 5/100, Advantage MX 5/120, Advantage MX 5/133, Advantage MX 5/166, Advantage MX 5/200, Bravo 4/33e, Bravo 4/66e, Premmia LX 1100, MS4/5/6/7, 4/33LP, P150	8MB	58-000-2MB	CALL
	16MB	58-000-4MB	CALL
	32MB	58-000-8MB	CALL

ZENITH MEMORY MODULES

MODEL	MEMORY	ZENITH PART#	PRICE
ZNX 25, 25 SX, 50	4MB	ZM-4MB	CALL
ZNX 25, 25 SX, 50	16MB	ZM-16MB	CALL

MAGNAVOX

486DX2/66 VESA, 486DX2/66 PCI & 50D, 50 and up to 72 PIN SIMM			CALL

IBM PS/1, PS/2 & MEMORY MODULES

IBM PART NO.	FOR MODEL NO.	PRICE
64H1295 (4Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1296 (8Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1297 (16Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1298 (32Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1299 (64Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1300 (128Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1301 (256Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1302 (512Meg)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1303 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1304 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1305 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1306 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1307 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1308 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1309 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1310 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1311 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1312 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1313 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1314 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1315 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1316 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1317 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1318 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1319 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1320 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1321 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1322 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1323 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1324 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1325 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1326 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1327 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1328 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1329 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1330 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1331 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1332 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1333 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1334 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1335 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1336 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1337 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1338 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1339 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1340 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1341 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1342 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1343 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1344 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1345 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1346 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1347 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1348 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1349 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1350 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1351 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1352 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1353 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1354 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1355 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1356 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1357 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1358 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1359 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1360 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1361 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1362 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1363 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1364 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1365 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1366 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1367 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1368 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1369 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1370 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1371 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1372 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1373 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1374 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1375 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1376 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1377 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1378 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1379 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1380 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1381 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1382 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1383 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1384 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1385 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1386 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1387 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1388 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1389 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1390 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1391 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1392 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1393 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1394 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1395 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1396 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1397 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1398 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1399 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1400 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1401 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1402 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1403 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1404 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1405 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1406 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1407 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1408 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1409 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1410 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1411 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1412 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1413 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1414 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1415 (4Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1416 (8Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1417 (16Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1418 (32Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1419 (64Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1420 (128Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1421 (256Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1422 (512Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1423 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1424 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
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64H1453 (1Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
64H1454 (2Gig)	8525, 8530, 8540, 8550, 8555, 8560, 8565, 8570, 8580, 8585, 8590, 8595, 9585, 9595	CALL
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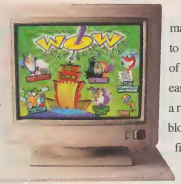

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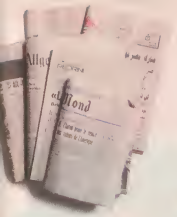

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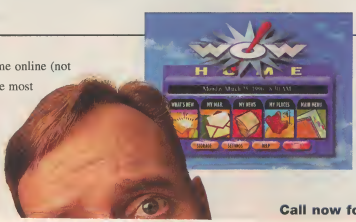

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Intel OverDrive Pentium 150MHz up for 940, 966	339.11
Intel OverDrive Pentium 166MHz up for 5100	556.72

MONITORS

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Mag Innovision DX1796 PnP 17" .26mm	656.44
Mag Innovision DX1951 15" .28mm	405.80
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Mag Innovision MX21F 21" .28mm	1484.25
Magnavox CM1560 15" .28mm	232.28
Magnavox MD1295 17" .26mm	329.19
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Magnavox CM4019 17" .26mm	559.09
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Magnavox 20CM4644 20" .31mm	1503.00
NEC 3V 15" .28mm	528.24
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Sony Multiscan 17seii 17" PnP .25mm	978.41
Sony Multiscan 20sfii 20" PnP .25mm	1630.53
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ViewSonic Optiquest V775 17" .26mm	584.72
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ATI Graphics Xpression PCI 2MB	213.91
ATI Graphics Xpression VLB 2MB	137.14
ATI Graphics Pro Turbo ISA 2MB	251.66
ATI Graphics Pro Turbo PCI 2MB	291.22
ATI Graphics Pro Turbo VLB 2MB	219.20
ATI Video Xpression ISA 2MB	169.05
ATI Video Xpression PCI 2MB	189.19
Diamond Stealth64 2200 ISA 2MB	93.68
Diamond Stealth64 3400 PCI 2MB	203.20
Diamond Stealth64 Video 2120 PCI 1MB	81.38
Diamond Stealth64 Video 3200 PCI 2MB	144.00
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IBM ThinkPad 700 series 16MB	492.10
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NEC Versa V 16MB	463.47
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IBM PC300 8MB	121.57
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Intel OverDrive Pentium 125MHz up for 940, 966	277.83
Intel OverDrive Pentium 125MHz up for 575	339.11
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COMPUTERS

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ML391	$387.29	OL410e	$277.35
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ML590	$45.72	WinJET 2010	$287.20

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BJC70	$199.00	MultiPASS C3500	$1299.00
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BJC610	$429.00		$846.28

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FX1170	$778.98	Stylus 1500	$999.00
FX2170	$899.00	Stylus Color II	$99.00
LQ870	$448.26	Stylus Color IIs	$128.65
LQ870	$443.03	Stylus Pro color	$499.00
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Color JetPrinter 2070	$1,199.00	Optra S 1255	$1,332.63
Optra E 6ppm	$423.19	WinWriter 150c	$333.00
Optra LX+ 16ppm	$849.39	thermal inkjet	$274.95

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microLaser PowerPro12	$382.50		

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Accoutgic SIDE-4x 4DS/10 16550 serial	$83.24
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Adaptec 2842 VLB SCSI-2	$256.13
Adaptec 1542CF SCSI Master Kit	$249.57
Adaptec PCI Ultra 2940 SCSI-2	$599.19
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ACCURA 288 V.34 internal w/fax	$156.88
ACCURA 288 V.34 external w/fax	$169.95
OPTIMA 288 V.34 internal w/fax	$253.55
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MOTOROLA

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14.4 VoiceSURFR external	$129.99
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OmniSmart 675 PNP	$133.79
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IBM Ethernet 10BT	$183.45
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2286, 2290, 2292, 2294, 2296, 2298, 2300, 2302, 2304, 2306, 2308
2310, 2312, 2314, 2316, 2318, 2320, 2322, 2324, 2326, 2328, 2330
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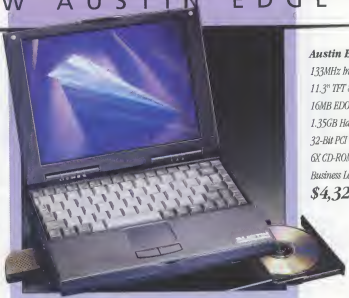

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Austin Edge CD - 133

133MHz Intel® Pentium® Processor
11.3" TFT 800x600 Color Display
16MB EDO RAM (expandable to 40MB)
810MB Hard Drive
64-Bit PCI Windows Accelerator – 1MB
6X CD-ROM Drive (removable for optional second battery or diskette drive)
28.8 Fax/Modem w/ Speakerphone
*Business Lease: **$138 / month***

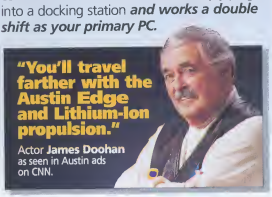
$3,949

Take a Second Look

Austin notebooks are second nature for our demanding customers who work hard and travel light. Now the **Austin Edge Duet,** with its **network-ready** docking station, **high-capacity hard drive**, and **knock-em-dead display**, does double duty as a full-featured desktop computer.

Double Life

You need the high-profile presence of the **Edge Duet** portable multimedia system, with **6X CD ROM** drive, for high-impact presentations. Now you have the added convenience of a notebook that simply plugs into a docking station ***and works a double shift as your primary PC.***



intel inside
pentium PROCESSOR

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Driven to Perfection!

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Desktop Solutions

20/20

AUSTIN POWER PERFORMERS

Austin PowerPLUS System Standard Features:

100-, 120-, 133-, 150-, or 166 MHz Intel Pentium Processor

256 to 512K L2 Pipeline Burst Cache

3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive

Desktop or Mini-Tower Chassis

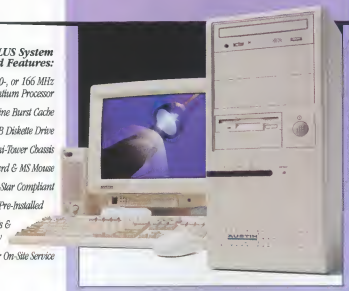
Win '95 Keyboard & MS Mouse

Energy-Star Compliant

Windows '95 Pre-Installed

Three-Year Parts & Labor Warranty

One-Year On-Site Service



Austin PowerPLUS 100

100MHz Intel Pentium Processor

16MB EDO RAM (expandable to 128MB)

1.2GB Enhanced IDE Hard Drive

64-Bit PCI Video Accelerator – 2MB DRAM

8X IDE CD-ROM Drive, 16-Bit Audio, 40W Stereo Speakers

15" .28mm NI SVGA Monitor

101-Key Keyboard & MS Mouse

Business Lease: ***$69 / month***

$1,849

Upgrade to PowerPLUS 133 - ***add $150***

See the Difference

Call Austin and experience our attention to detail and fast response. Expect **Custom Configuration** and **Quick-Ship** promptness without extra charges. With Austin, we build reliable computers and we stand behind every system we ship.

A Vision of Your Success

Each Austin desktop gives you a selection of innovative features, like the **180MHz Pentium Pro processor** and **64-bit PCI acceleration** with **2MB of VRAM**, as well as an **8X CD-ROM** and **16-bit Audio Card**. Of course, Windows 95 is preinstalled, and optional hard-drive capacity ranges up to 2GB.

Austin Pro Workstation Standard Features:

180- or 200 MHz Intel Pentium Pro Processor

256 to 512K L2 Pipeline Burst Cache

3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive

Mid-Tower ATX Chassis

Win '95 Keyboard & MS Mouse

Energy-Star Compliant

Windows '95 Pre-Installed

Three-Year Parts & Labor Warranty

One-Year On-Site Service

Austin Pro Workstation 180

180MHz Intel Pentium Pro Processor

16MB EDO RAM (expandable to 128MB)

2.5GB Enhanced IDE Hard Drive

64-Bit PCI Video Accelerator – 2MB VRAM

8X IDE CD-ROM Drive, 16-Bit Audio, 40W Stereo Speakers

15" .28mm NI SVGA Monitor

Business Lease: ***$101 / month***

$2,699

Upgrade to Pentium Pro 200 - ***add $100***

Upgrade to Windows NT 3.51 Workstation - ***add $275***

intel inside
pentium PROCESSOR

Ad Code 0494

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Business Lease term reflects 36-month lease.

Server Solutions

VISION

AUSTIN DEPARTMENTAL SERVERS

Austin Affinity XR Server Standard Features:

256K L2 Cache
Adaptec 2940W Drive Controller
4X SCSI CD-ROM Drive
16-Bit PCI Video
3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive
10Base-T PCI Network Adapter
3 ISA, 3 PCI Expansion Slots
Tower Chassis (26"H x 10" W x 25.5"D)
300W Power Supply
101-Key Keyboard
Three-Year Parts & Labor Warranty
One-Year On-Site Service

Austin Affinity XE and XE Pro Standard Features:

512K L2 Cache
Mylex or AMI PCI RAID Controller
6X SCSI CD-ROM Drive
3.5" 1.44MB Diskette Drive
16-Bit PCI Video
100Base-T PCI Network Adapter
Affinity XE: 4 EISA, 4 PCI Expansion Slots
Affinity XE Pro: 4 EISA, 6 PCI Expansion Slots
Tower Chassis (26"H x 10" W x 25.5"D)
500W Power Supply
101-Key Keyboard
Three-Year Parts & Labor Warranty
One-Year On-Site Service
Mylex or AMI Array Management Software and Austin's Novell NetWare Management Software Pre-Installed

Look to the Future

Your **Austin Affinity** arrives ready for work, designed for easy installation and **mission critical reliability**. Whether you start with a single processor or take advantage of the **first-to-market quad Pentium Pro configuration**, every Affinity is designed to accommodate increasing demands. The top-of-the-line **Affinity XE Pro** offers four EISA and six PCI expansion slots for maximum expandability to manage your network growth.

Site Plan for Success

Austin Affinity. It means a compelling combination of raw processing power and easy-to-manage networking resources. Install up to **12 hot-swappable hard drives**, each with 2GB or 4GB capacity. And simplify network administration with preinstalled Austin **Novell NetWare Management software** and **Array Management software.**

intel inside
PENTIUM PRO PROCESSOR

Austin Affinity XR-120

120MHz Intel Pentium Processor
16MB RAM – Expandable to 256MB
2GB Hot-Swappable Fast & Wide SCA Hard Drive – Expandable to 24GB
Business Lease: ***$140 / month***

$3,995

Austin Affinity XE-150

150MHz Dual Pentium Processor
64MB RAM – Expandable to 512MB
3 2GB Hot-Swappable Fast & Wide SCA Hard Drives – Expandable to 48GB
Business Lease: ***$334 / month***

$9,995

Austin Affinity XE-Pro

200MHz Dual Pentium Pro Processor
128MB RAM – Expandable to 1GB
5-2GB Hot-Swappable Fast & Wide SCA Hard Drives – Expandable to 48GB
Business Lease: ***$625 / month***

$18,695

Maximize Affinity XE reliability with hot-swap redundant power supply upgrade – $995

AUSTIN COMPUTER SYSTEMS
Driven to Perfection!

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MEMORY

LIFETIME WARRANTY

SECURITY WILL CALL WINDOW NOW OPEN! NO SURCHARGE FOR MC, VISA AE & DISCOVER

HOT BOX SPECIALS

★ LIMITED QUANTITIES ★

- Thinkpad 750, 720, 700, 4Meg..... $ 49ea
- Zeos Meridian Notebook, 16Meg..... $ 299ea
- HP 5000/Twinhead Slimnote 8 Series, 16Meg ..$199ea
- Winbook, 8Meg..... $ 99ea
- Compaq LTE LITE, 486, 4Meg..... 79ea
- HP 5L, 4Meg..... 89ea
- 256 y 3-80, 30 Pin..... 5ea
- 256 x 3-70, 30 Pin..... 6ea
- 1 x 3-70..... 10ea
- 512 x 36-80, 2Meg, 72 Pin..... 25ea
- IBM 6450603, 1Meg..... 10ea
- IBM 6450604, 2Meg..... 20ea
- NEC Versa, 32Meg..... 999ea

IBM PS/1, PS/2 MEMORY MODULES

IBM P/N	WORKS WITH MODEL NO.	PRICE
1057260 (1Meg)	90 (8595, 9595) 95 (8595, 9595)	30.00
8450604/33170 (1Meg)	70-B01, B21, 121, 131, 133, 155, 165, 170, 340, 433, 435, 530, 530H, 535, 550, 555, 560, 570, 720, 725, 730, 750, 755, 820, 4005, Hpt PC, 3077	30.00
6450605 (2Meg)	70-B01, B21, 121, 131, 133, 155, 165, 170, 340, 433, 435, 530, 530H, 535, 550, 555, 560, 570, 720, 725, 730, 750, 755, 820, 4005, Hpt PC, 3077	60.00
2470322 (4Meg)	3540, 9595 9585, 9590, 9595, 9570	60.00
2470323 (8Meg)	9585, 9590, 9595, 9570	120.00
2470325 (2Meg)	9585, 9590, 9595, 9570	60.00
6274564 (4Meg)	P320, P-370/C6000 Model 2320	60.00
6274565 (8Meg)	P320, P-370/C6000 Model 2320	120.00
4Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	PC 8595 Baseline	480/1920.00
4Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	PC 9595 Baseline	480/1920.00
4Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	PC 9570 Server	480/1920.00
4Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	PC 9585, 9590, 9595	480/1920.00
4Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	PC Server 320, 520, 520T, 520R, 520S	480/1920.00
4Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	PC Server 520	480/1920.00
6450603/33169 (1Meg)	Aptiva 2120 2126 2136 2145 2150 2156 2160 Premium	30.00
6450603 (1Meg) (60 ns)	Aptiva 2120 2126 2136 2145 2150 2156 2160 Premium (60 ns)	30.00
6450603 (1Meg)	Aptiva 2140 2144 2148 2150 2156 2160 2165 Premium	30.00
6450604/33170 (2Meg)	Aptiva 2140 2144 2148 2150 2156 2160 2165 Premium	60.00
6450604 (2Meg)	Aptiva 2140 2144 2148 2150 2156 2160 2165 Premium	60.00
6450605 (2Meg)	Vision Point Performance PC server 4/66	60.00
6450606 (4Meg)	Vision Point Performance PC server 4/66	120.00
6450607 (8Meg)	Vision Point Performance PC server 4/66	240.00
6450602 (2Meg)	34, 57, 57SLC, 80, 90, 95, 57SLC	60.00
6450603/33169 (1Meg)	40, 40SLC, 50, 50Z, 50S, 55SX, 55SX-E, P70, L, 486SX, 486SX/25, 486SX/25 Model 2, 486SX/25 Model 2 WCD, 56SLC, 56SLC2, 65SX, 65SX-E, 66SX, 66SX-E, 66SX/2, 66SX/2 WCD, 66SX/2 Model 2, 66SX/2 Model 2 WCD	30.00
6450603/33169/33169 (4Meg)	70, 57, 57SLC, 80, 90, P70, 57SLC	120.00
6450603/33170 (2Meg)	70, 57, 57SLC, 80, 90, P70, 57SLC	120.00
6451603/33169/33169 (4Meg 4Gb)	480 (6561), 486 (6561), 486 (6561)	120.00
6451603 (4Meg/4Gb)	486 (6561), 486 (6561), 486 (6561)	120.00
6451603/33169 (4Meg)	486 (6561), 486 (6561), 486 (6561)	120.00

CACHE MEMORY

	128KB	256KB	512KB	1024KB
8kx9	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00
32kx9 (3.3V)	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
32kx8	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00
64kx9		11.00	11.00	11.00
64kx8		11.00 (3.3V)	11.00 (3.3V)	11.00
128kx9		4.00	4.00	4.00
128kx8		29.00	29.00	24.00
256kx9			29.00	24.00
256kx8			29.00	24.00

Custom Configurations Available

Individual D-RAM Chips

	80 NS/100 (3.3V)	70 NS/80 (3.3V)	60 NS/70 (3.3V)
1Meg x 1	4.00 (3.3V)	4.00	4.00
1Meg x 4	4.00 (3.3V)	4.00	4.00
4Meg x 4 (Fast Page)	7.00	8.00	9.00
4Meg x 4 (Hyper Page)	7.00	8.75	9.50
4Meg x 4 (EDO)	7.00	8.00	9.00
4Meg x 4 (Hyper Page)	7.00	8.00	8.95
256kx16 (Edo Dec.)	14.00	15.00	16.00
1Meg x 16 (Edo Dec.)	7.00	8.00	9.00
4Meg x 16 (Edo Dec.)	27.00	27.75	28.50
4Meg x 4 (Edo Dec.)	7.00	8.00	9.00
256kx16 (Edo Dec.)	14.00	15.00	16.00
1Meg x 16 (Edo Dec.)	7.00	8.00	9.00
4Meg x 16 (Edo Dec.)	27.00	27.75	28.50
4Meg x 4 (Edo Dec.)	7.00	8.00	9.00
256kx16 (Edo Dec.)	14.00	15.00	16.00
1Meg x 16 (Edo Dec.)	7.00	8.00	9.00
4Meg x 16 (Edo Dec.)	27.00	27.75	28.50

CYRIX Fasmath

Cyrix 387 Cyrix 387+

CYRIX DRx2 386 to 486 Upgrade Clock Doubler

Cx486e DRx2-25/50 — 99.00 Cx486 DRx2-40/80 — 99.00 Cx486 SRx2-25/50 — 69.00

SIMM MODULES (Add $5.00 for SIPP)

	60NS	70NS	80NS	70NS	60NS
				1Meg x 9	1Meg x 9
256 x 9			4.00	4.00	4.00
1Meg x 9 (8 chip)			16.00	16.00	15.00
1Meg x 9 (9 chip)			18.00	18.00	17.00
4Meg x 9			64.00	64.00	60.00
16Meg x 9 (9 chip)			256.00	256.00	240.00

72 PIN SIMMS (EISA, EDO

DIMMS (168 pin)

	60NS	70NS	80NS	70NS	60NS
256 x 32 (1Meg)	16.00	16.00	16.00	1Meg	1Meg
512 x 32 (2 Pc.)	45.00	39.00	39.00	64.00	64.00
1 x 32 (2 Meg)	45.00	39.00	39.00	64.00	64.00
1 x 32 (4 Meg)	89.00	79.00	79.00	128.00	128.00
2 x 32 (4 Meg)	179.00	159.00	159.00	256.00	256.00
2 x 32 (8 Meg)	179.00	159.00	159.00	1.28Meg	1.28Meg
4 x 32 (8 Meg)	359.00	319.00	319.00	512.00	512.00
4 x 32 (16 Meg)	719.00	639.00	639.00	1.02Meg	1.02Meg
1 x 32 (1 Meg)	44.00	39.00	39.00	64.00	64.00
1 x 32 (4 Meg)	89.00	79.00	79.00	128.00	128.00
2 x 32 (4 Meg)	179.00	159.00	159.00	256.00	256.00
2 x 32 (8 Meg)	359.00	319.00	319.00	512.00	512.00
4 x 32 (8 Meg)	359.00	319.00	319.00	512.00	512.00
4 x 32 (16 Meg)	719.00	639.00	639.00	1.02Meg	1.02Meg
8 x 32 (16 Meg)	1439.00	1279.00	1279.00	2.05Meg	2.05Meg
8 x 32 (32 Meg)	2879.00	2559.00	2559.00	4.10Meg	4.10Meg

ECC Simms/Dimms Modules

SO DIMMS (72/144 pin)

Add'l Parity (P) for (Industry standard) SIMMS		72 PIN 4 Meg	4Meg	32.00
1Meg x 36	720.00	72 PIN 8 Meg	8Meg	64.00
4Meg x 36	2880.00	72 PIN 16 Meg	16Meg	128.00
64Meg	23040.00	72 PIN 32 Meg	32Meg	256.00
128Meg	46080.00			
1M, 1MP PC (Install in pairs) / DIMMS		144 Pin 8 Meg	8Meg	64.00
4Meg	180.00	144 Pin 16 Meg	16Meg	128.00
16Meg	720.00	144 Pin 32 Meg	32Meg	256.00
64Meg	2880.00	144 Pin 64 Meg	64Meg	512.00
4M, 4MP PC (Install in pairs) / DIMMS		144 Pin 128 Meg	128Meg	1024.00
16Meg	720.00	144 Pin 256 Meg	256Meg	2048.00
64Meg	2880.00	144 Pin 512 Meg	512Meg	4096.00
256Meg	11520.00	144 Pin 1 Gig	1Gig	8192.00
1G Meg	46080.00			

AST MEMORY

	60ns	70ns	80ns	70ns	60ns
Bravo LC Series 4Meg MT, 8Meg MB, 16Meg MB, Advantage Pro 5/66		4Meg	4Meg	8Meg	8Meg
		8Meg	8Meg	16Meg	16Meg
		16Meg	16Meg	32Meg	32Meg
Premmia LX PM 4MB/8MB/ 4/16ST, Plus		4Meg	4Meg	8Meg	8Meg
		8Meg	8Meg	16Meg	16Meg
		16Meg	16Meg	32Meg	32Meg
Premmia 4122, 4133S, 4/50, 4/66		4Meg	4Meg	8Meg	8Meg
Premmia 4/25, 4/33S, 4/50		4Meg	4Meg	8Meg	8Meg
Premmia 4/25, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/66		8Meg	8Meg	16Meg	16Meg
Premmia 4/25, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/66		16Meg	16Meg	32Meg	32Meg
Power Premmia 4/25, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/66		4Meg	4Meg	8Meg	8Meg
Power Premmia 4/25, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/66		8Meg	8Meg	16Meg	16Meg
Premmia 4/25, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/66		16Meg	16Meg	32Meg	32Meg
Prism 2 (8/16/32 3Bit)/33 4MB/8MB/16MB/32MB					
Prism 2 (8/16/32 3Bit)/33 4MB/8MB/16MB/32MB		2 Meg Kit	80F00-000		60.00
Workstation 3000		4Meg Kit	80F00-100		120.00
Workstation 3000		8Meg Kit	80F00-200		240.00
Prism 2S (8/16/32 3Bit)/33 4MB/8MB/16MB/32MB		4Meg	80F00-400		150.00
Prism 2S (8/16/32 3Bit)/33 4MB/8MB/16MB/32MB		8Meg	80F00-500		300.00
Premmia GS/XL Series		4Meg Kit	80F00-600		150.00
Premmia GS/XL Series		8Meg Kit	80F00-700		300.00
Premmia GS/XL Series		16Meg Kit	80F00-800		600.00
Premmia GS/XL Series		32Meg Kit	80F00-900		1200.00
Premmia GS/XL Series		64Meg Kit	80F00-A00		2400.00
Premmia GS/XL Series		128Meg Kit	80F00-B00		4800.00

AMBRA

Ambra Pixelvue 60	459.1/Mfg
Ambra Pixelvue 72	459.1/Mfg
Ambra V Series	**4/8/12/16 Meg**
Ambra Vision 60	459.1/Mfg
Ambra Vision 72	459.1/Mfg
Ambra W 70 V 80	4 8/16

IBM NOTEBOOK & LAPTOP MEMORY

1Meg x 16 (2 Meg)	Thinkpad 700 (-), 700 C (-), 720, C (-), 750	110.00
2Meg x 16 (4 Meg)	Thinkpad 700, C, 720, 720 C (-), 750	215.00
6460865 (1Meg x 32 Mtrs)	Thinkpad 750	179.729
6460866 (2Meg)	Thinkpad 750, 360, 360 340, 490	179.729
6450354 (4Meg)	Thinkpad 750, 360, 360 340, 490	359.458
6460867 (4Meg, 32Meg)	**Thinkpad 700, 700 C, 720, 720 C**	**349.000**
8Meg/16Meg	**Thinkpad 700C (-), 720C, 750**	**349.000**
8Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	Thinkpad 500 512/25 (-3 volt)	159.00
8Meg/16Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	Thinkpad 500 512/25 (3.3 volt)	159.00
8Meg/16Meg (32Meg)	LAVC 6020SX PS Note	159.00
TP 1000 (4Meg)	LAVC 1000SE PS Note Tspd 200, 350c PS Note 425	114.00
TP 1000 (8Meg)	LAVC 1000SE PS Note	229.00
Hard Drive (6Gb) Max 13 Gig	Thinkpad 750 755, 360, 365	719.157
4Meg/8Meg	Thinkpad 700 C, 720 C, 750c/Edo	179.729
4Meg/8Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	Thinkpad 700 C, 720 C, 750c	179.729
6450372 (4Meg)	Thinkpad 560 Edo, PS Note 425	179.729
6450373 (8Meg)	Thinkpad 560 Edo, PS Note 425	359.458
4Meg/8Meg	**Thinkpad 220**	**114.57/129**
4Meg/8Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	Thinkpad 770C, 770 Series	89.00
8Meg/16Meg	Thinkpad 770C, 770 Series	159.00
8Meg/16Meg (32Meg)	Thinkpad 770C, 770 Series	159.00
8Meg/16Meg	Thinkpad 600	4/8/12/16/20/24/28/32
4Meg/8Meg (16Meg/32Meg)	Thinkpad 600	4/8/12/16/20/24/28/32
8Meg/16Meg (32Meg)	Thinkpad 760	159.00
Hard Drive (6/10Meg)	**Thinkpad 760**	**4/8/12/16/20/24/28/32**

COMPAQ MEMORY MODULES

Deskpro 2000	4Meg Proliant 1000 Series Board	79.729
	8Meg Proliant 1000 Series Board	159.458
Deskpro 386 25/33	1Meg Module 1Meg Memory Board	79.729
	4Meg Module 4Meg Memory Board	359.458
Deskpro 386/20, 25	1Meg Module 1Meg Memory Board	79.729
Deskpro 386/20e, 25e, 386/25, 486/25, 486/50L	4Meg Module 4Meg Memory Board	359.458
Deskpro 386/20e, 25e, 386/25, 486/25, 486/50L	8Meg Module 8Meg Memory Board	719.458
Deskpro 386 Server	Expansion Board (512)	79.729
Deskpro 386/20, 25, 33, 386/20e, 25e, 386/25, 486/25, 486/50L	1Meg Module	79.729
Deskpro 386/20, 25, 33, 386/20e, 25e, 386/25, 486/25, 486/50L	4Meg Module	359.458
Deskpro 4/33, 4/50, 4/66	4/8/16/32/64Mb SIMM Module	4/8/16/32/64/128/256/512
Presario 425, 433s/ST, 425/ST, 433s/ST, 425/ST, 433s/ST	4/8/16/32/64Mb SIMM Module	4/8/16/32/64/128/256/512
Presario 425, 433s/ST, 425/ST, 433s/ST, 425/ST, 433s/ST	4/8/16/32/64Mb SIMM Module	4/8/16/32/64/128/256/512
Presario 4/66 Series, 466 Series, 850 Series		49/56/336/410
Presario 4/66 Series, 466 Series, 850 Series	(tested in parts)	49/56/336/410
Presario 4/66 Series, 466 Series, 850 Series	(tested in parts)	49/56/336/410
Prolinea 4/25S, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/50 DX2	1/2/4/8Meg	29/59/69/129
Prolinea 4/25S, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/50 DX2, 4/66	1/2/4/8Meg	29/59/69/129
Prolinea 4/25S, 4/33S, 4/50, 4/50 DX2, 4/66	1/2/4/8Meg	29/59/69/129
575 Series 5/66 Intel, 5133 Series		
Presario 4/66 Series, 466 Series, 850 Series	(tested in parts) 4/8/16/32Mb	49/56/336/410
Presario 4/66 Series, 466 Series, 850 Series	(tested in parts) 4/8/16/32Mb	49/56/336/410
Prolinea 5200 DVC, Presario 7000	(tested in parts) 4/8/16/32	49/56/336/410
Prolinea 5/66, 5/75, 5/90, 5/100, 5/133, 5/166, 5/200	4/8/16/32/64/128Mb SIMM	49/56/336/410
4000 5/90, 5/100, 5/133, 5/166, 5/200, 4/66, 4/75, 4/100	4/8/16/32/64/128Mb SIMM	49/56/336/410
4000 5/90, 5/100, 5/133, 5/166, 5/200, 4/66, 4/75, 4/100	4/8/16/32/64/128Mb SIMM	49/56/336/410

COMPAQ LAPTOPS & NOTEBOOKS

Contura 4/25C, 4/33C Hard Drive (60ns)	4Meg Module	719.458/1,437.542/2,875
SDRAM 16MB, 32MB	**(60ns) (4Meg/8Meg/16Meg)**	**719.458/1,437.542/2,875**
LTE 5/25, 5/25C, 5/33C	1Meg Module	179.729
LTE 5/25, 5/25C, 5/33C	4Meg Module	359.458
LTE 5/100, 5/120, 5/133	1Meg Module	179.729
LTE 5/100, 5/120, 5/133	4Meg Module	359.458
LTE 5/100, 5/120, 5/133	8Meg Module	719.458
LTE 5/125 4/50,5/50,5/66C	1Meg Module	179.729
LTE 5/125 4/50,5/50,5/66C	4Meg Module	359.458
LTE 5/125 4/50,5/50,5/66C	8Meg Module	719.458
Contura 3/25, 3/25C	1Meg Module	179.729
	4Meg Module	359.458
Concerto 1, LTE Elite	1Meg Module	179.729
	4Meg Module	359.458
	8Meg Module	719.458
Contura 3/25, 3/25	1Meg Module	179.729
	4Meg Module	359.458
Aero 4/25, 4/33	4Meg/8Meg (60ns)	359.458/719.458
Contura 4/25, 4/25C, 4/33C	4Meg (60ns)	359.458
Contura 4/25, 4/25C, 4/33C	8Meg (60ns)	719.458
	16Meg (60ns)	1,437.542
Aero 4/25, 4/33	1Meg (60ns)	179.729
	4Meg (60ns)	359.458
	8Meg (60ns)	719.458

HARD DISK DRIVES

							MODEL/MB/ID	
80MB CDS 40/25	5012	1.0 GB	3.5"	5213	09/MB	5213/1.0GB/09		5218
1.0 GB CDS 120/34	5012	1.0 GB	3.5"	5213	09/MB	5213/1.0GB/09		5218
1.0 GB	391	1.0 GB	3.5"	395	1.0 GB	4/33/4GB	397	
1.2 GB	391	1.2 GB	3.5"	395	1.0 GB	4/33/4GB	397	
2.1 GB	2129							

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MODEL	PRICE	MODEL	PRICE
D-RAM Cards 1MEG	87.729	Flashdisk CD ROM (2C) & Card	$299
D-RAM Cards 2MEG	159	ROM Type II	112
28.8 K Fax/Data Modem	189	ROM Type III	149
14.4/2.4 K Data/Fax Modem	149	Multimedia Combo (Sound)/SCSI	319
14.4/2.4 K Data/Fax Modem	149	Type III 850 Meg Hard Drive	419
Lan Ethernet Card (10 Base T)	189	Type III 1.2 Gig Hard Drive	619
Lan Ethernet Card (10 Base T)	189	Type III 1.7 Gig Hard Drive	819

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MODEL	ADD'L UPGRADES	MANU. PART #	PRICE
T4400, T4400C, T4700, T4700C, T4800, T4800C, T4850, T4850C	4Meg (60ns)		240.00/Mfg
T2130, T2150, T2180, T3100, T3100e, T3200, T3200SX, T3300SX, T3400, T3400C, T3400CS, T3400CT, T3400SX, T3400SXC, T3450, T3450C, T3450SX, T3450SXC, T3500, T3500C, T3500SX, T3500SXC, T3600, T3600C, T3600SX, T3600SXC, T3700, T3700C, T3700SX, T3700SXC, T3800, T3800C, T3800SX, T3800SXC, T3900, T3900C, T3900SX, T3900SXC, T4000, T4000C, T4000SX, T4000SXC, T4100, T4100C, T4100SX, T4100SXC, T4200, T4200C, T4200SX, T4200SXC, T4300, T4300C, T4300SX, T4300SXC, T4400, T4400C, T4400SX, T4400SXC, T4500, T4500C, T4500SX, T4500SXC, T4600, T4600C, T4600SX, T4600SXC, T4700, T4700C, T4700SX, T4700SXC, T4800, T4800C, T4800SX, T4800SXC, T4850, T4850C, T4850SX, T4850SXC	4Meg (60ns)		240.00/Mfg
T1000, T1000SE, T1000XE, T1000XL, T1000XL2	1Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-1M	49.95/Mfg
T1000, T1000SE, T1000XE, T1000XL, T1000XL2	2Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-2M	89.95/Mfg
T1000, T1000SE, T1000XE, T1000XL, T1000XL2	4Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-4M	169.95/Mfg
T1000, T1000SE, T1000XE, T1000XL, T1000XL2	8Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-8M	329.95/Mfg
T1600, T1600C, T1650, T1650C, T1850, T1850C, T1900, T1900C	2Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-2M	89.95/Mfg
T1600, T1600C, T1650, T1650C, T1850, T1850C, T1900, T1900C	4Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-4M	169.95/Mfg
T1600, T1600C, T1650, T1650C, T1850, T1850C, T1900, T1900C	8Meg (60ns)	PA3076U-8M	329.95/Mfg
T2400, T2400C, T2400CS, T2400CT, T2410, T2410C, T2420, T2420C, T2430, T2430C, T2450, T2450C, T2455, T2455C, T2455SX, T2455SXC, T2460, T2460C, T2460SX, T2460SXC, T2470, T2470C, T2470SX, T2470SXC, T2480, T2480C, T2480SX, T2480SXC, T2490, T2490C, T2490SX, T2490SXC, T3200, T3200C, T3200SX, T3200SXC, T3300, T3300C, T3300SX, T3300SXC, T3400, T3400C, T3400CS, T3400CT, T3400SX, T3400SXC, T3450, T3450C, T3450SX, T3450SXC, T3500, T3500C, T3500SX, T3500SXC, T3600, T3600C, T3600SX, T3600SXC, T3700, T3700C, T3700SX, T3700SXC, T3800, T3800C, T3800SX, T3800SXC, T3900, T3900C, T3900SX, T3900SXC, T4000, T4000C, T4000SX, T4000SXC, T4100, T4100C, T4100SX, T4100SXC, T4200, T4200C, T4200SX, T4200SXC, T4300, T4300C, T4300SX, T4300SXC, T4400, T4400C, T4400SX, T4400SXC, T4500, T4500C, T4500SX, T4500SXC, T4600, T4600C, T4600SX, T4600SXC, T4700, T4700C, T4700SX, T4700SXC, T4800, T4800C, T4800SX, T4800SXC, T4850, T4850C, T4850SX, T4850SXC	4Meg (60ns)		240.00/Mfg
T2400, T2400C, T2400CS, T2400CT, T2410, T2410C, T2420, T2420C, T2430, T2430C, T2450, T2450C, T2455, T2455C, T2455SX, T2455SXC, T2460, T2460C, T2460SX, T2460SXC, T2470, T2470C, T2470SX, T2470SXC, T2480, T2480C, T2480SX, T2480SXC, T2490, T2490C, T2490SX, T2490SXC, T3200, T3200C, T3200SX, T3200SXC, T3300, T3300C, T3300SX, T3300SXC, T3400, T3400C, T3400CS, T3400CT, T3400SX, T3400SXC, T3450, T3450C, T3450SX, T3450SXC, T3500, T3500C, T3500SX, T3500SXC, T3600, T3600C, T3600SX, T3600SXC, T3700, T3700C, T3700SX, T3700SXC, T3800, T3800C, T3800SX, T3800SXC, T3900, T3900C, T3900SX, T3900SXC, T4000, T4000C, T4000SX, T4000SXC, T4100, T4100C, T4100SX, T4100SXC, T4200, T4200C, T4200SX, T4200SXC, T4300, T4300C, T4300SX, T4300SXC, T4400, T4400C, T4400SX, T4400SXC, T4500, T4500C, T4500SX, T4500SXC, T4600, T4600C, T4600SX, T4600SXC, T4700, T4700C, T4700SX, T4700SXC, T4800, T4800C, T4800SX, T4800SXC, T4850, T4850C, T4850SX, T4850SXC	8Meg (60ns)		480.00/Mfg

NOTEBOOK, LAPTOP MEMORY

MODEL	ADD'L UPGRADES	MANU. PART #	PRICE
ACER 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790	4Meg Module		359.458
ACER 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790	8Meg Module		719.458
ACER 710, 720, 730, 740, 750, 760, 770, 780, 790	16Meg Module		1,437.542
ACER Aspire 700	**4Meg (60ns)**		**359.458**
ACER Aspire 700	**8Meg (60ns)**		**719.458**
ACER 4/25C, 4/33C, 4/50, 4/66	4Meg (60ns)		359.458
ACER 4/25C, 4/33C, 4/50, 4/66	8Meg (60ns)		719.458
ACER 4/25C, 4/33C, 4/50, 4/66	16Meg (60ns)		1,437.542
ACER Aspire 710, 730, 750	**4Meg (60ns)**		**359.458**
ACER Aspire 710, 730, 750	**8Meg (60ns)**		**719.458**
ACER Aspire 710, 730, 750	**16Meg (60ns)**		**1,437.542**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Meg (60ns)**		**359.458**
ACER Aspire 900	**8Meg (60ns)**		**719.458**
ACER Aspire 900	**16Meg (60ns)**		**1,437.542**
ACER Aspire 900	**32Meg (60ns)**		**2,875.084**
ACER Aspire 900	**64Meg (60ns)**		**5,750.168**
ACER Aspire 900	**128Meg (60ns)**		**11,500.336**
ACER Aspire 900	**256Meg (60ns)**		**23,000.672**
ACER Aspire 900	**512Meg (60ns)**		**46,001.344**
ACER Aspire 900	**1Gig (60ns)**		**92,002.688**
ACER Aspire 900	**2Gig (60ns)**		**184,005.376**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Gig (60ns)**		**368,010.752**
ACER Aspire 900	**8Gig (60ns)**		**736,021.504**
ACER Aspire 900	**16Gig (60ns)**		**1,472,043.008**
ACER Aspire 900	**32Gig (60ns)**		**2,944,086.016**
ACER Aspire 900	**64Gig (60ns)**		**5,888,172.032**
ACER Aspire 900	**128Gig (60ns)**		**11,776,344.064**
ACER Aspire 900	**256Gig (60ns)**		**23,552,688.128**
ACER Aspire 900	**512Gig (60ns)**		**47,105,376.256**
ACER Aspire 900	**1Gig (60ns)**		**94,210,752.512**
ACER Aspire 900	**2Gig (60ns)**		**188,421,505.024**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Gig (60ns)**		**376,843,010.048**
ACER Aspire 900	**8Gig (60ns)**		**753,686,020.096**
ACER Aspire 900	**16Gig (60ns)**		**1,507,372,040.192**
ACER Aspire 900	**32Gig (60ns)**		**3,014,744,080.384**
ACER Aspire 900	**64Gig (60ns)**		**6,029,488,160.768**
ACER Aspire 900	**128Gig (60ns)**		**12,058,976,321.536**
ACER Aspire 900	**256Gig (60ns)**		**24,117,952,643.072**
ACER Aspire 900	**512Gig (60ns)**		**48,235,905,286.144**
ACER Aspire 900	**1Gig (60ns)**		**96,471,810,572.288**
ACER Aspire 900	**2Gig (60ns)**		**192,943,621,144.576**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Gig (60ns)**		**385,887,242,289.152**
ACER Aspire 900	**8Gig (60ns)**		**771,774,484,578.304**
ACER Aspire 900	**16Gig (60ns)**		**1,543,548,969,156.608**
ACER Aspire 900	**32Gig (60ns)**		**3,087,097,938,313.216**
ACER Aspire 900	**64Gig (60ns)**		**6,174,195,876,626.432**
ACER Aspire 900	**128Gig (60ns)**		**12,348,391,753,252.864**
ACER Aspire 900	**256Gig (60ns)**		**24,696,783,506,505.728**
ACER Aspire 900	**512Gig (60ns)**		**49,393,567,013,011.456**
ACER Aspire 900	**1Gig (60ns)**		**98,787,134,026,022.912**
ACER Aspire 900	**2Gig (60ns)**		**197,574,268,052,045.824**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Gig (60ns)**		**395,148,536,104,091.648**
ACER Aspire 900	**8Gig (60ns)**		**790,297,072,208,183.296**
ACER Aspire 900	**16Gig (60ns)**		**1,580,594,144,416,366.592**
ACER Aspire 900	**32Gig (60ns)**		**3,161,188,288,832,733.184**
ACER Aspire 900	**64Gig (60ns)**		**6,322,376,577,665,466.368**
ACER Aspire 900	**128Gig (60ns)**		**12,644,753,155,330,932.736**
ACER Aspire 900	**256Gig (60ns)**		**25,289,506,310,661,865.472**
ACER Aspire 900	**512Gig (60ns)**		**50,579,012,621,323,730.944**
ACER Aspire 900	**1Gig (60ns)**		**101,158,025,242,647,461.888**
ACER Aspire 900	**2Gig (60ns)**		**202,316,050,485,294,923.776**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Gig (60ns)**		**404,632,100,970,589,847.552**
ACER Aspire 900	**8Gig (60ns)**		**809,264,201,941,179,695.104**
ACER Aspire 900	**16Gig (60ns)**		**1,618,528,403,882,359,390.208**
ACER Aspire 900	**32Gig (60ns)**		**3,237,056,807,764,718,780.416**
ACER Aspire 900	**64Gig (60ns)**		**6,474,113,615,529,437,560.832**
ACER Aspire 900	**128Gig (60ns)**		**12,948,227,231,058,875,121.664**
ACER Aspire 900	**256Gig (60ns)**		**25,896,454,462,117,750,243.328**
ACER Aspire 900	**512Gig (60ns)**		**51,792,908,924,235,500,486.656**
ACER Aspire 900	**1Gig (60ns)**		**103,585,817,848,471,000,973.312**
ACER Aspire 900	**2Gig (60ns)**		**207,171,635,696,942,001,946.624**
ACER Aspire 900	**4Gig (60ns)**		**414,343,271,393,884,003,893.

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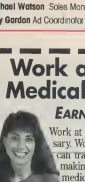

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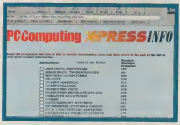

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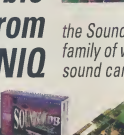

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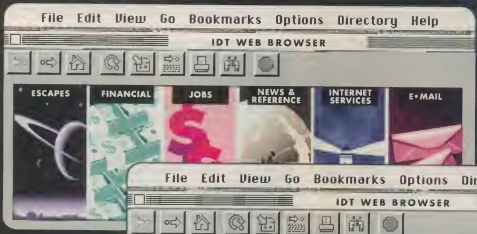

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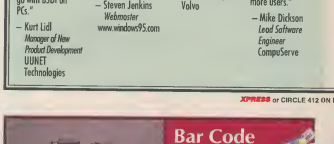

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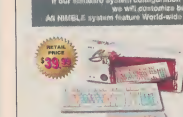

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New all-in-one printers, or multifunction devices (MFDs), consolidate several hardware components into one box, giving you more space and making certain tasks easier. Combining the functions of a printer, fax machine, scanner, and copier, an MFD even lightens the load on your budget.

Office Hero: Hewlett-Packard's OfficeJet 350 is a solid performer that works well with Windows 95.

OfficeJet 350 / Hewlett-Packard / (800) 752-0900 / $599 est. street price

In the past you had to give up quality for convenience with an MFD, but new versions finally introduce fast laser printing, 300-dpi optical-resolution scanning, and document-management software that's sophisticated enough to dramatically reduce the piles of paper in your office.

But are these MFDs good enough to consider scrapping the hardware you already own? To find out, our usability testers looked at the newest top-tier MFDs: Hewlett-Packard's OfficeJet 350, Canon's MultiPass C2500, Xerox's Document WorkCenter 250, JetFax's M5 SST, and Lumina's Lumina 2000.

These five MFDs have black-and-white scanners that are TWAIN-compatible, and the units copy only one sheet of paper at a time. Also, the modems buried inside the MFDs understand only fax—so they won't connect you to the Internet.

On the plus side, all the units' printers are uniformly good, and their output beats the slick, curly fax pages of old. Their software isn't yet perfectly integrated with Windows 95, but in most cases our testers had no problem using it.

Office Standards

Hewlett-Packard's new OfficeJet 350 perches on top of the company's venerable 600-by-300-dpi ink-jet engine. The result is a solid unit that should further enhance Hewlett-Packard's well-deserved reputation for delivering workhorse products. The OfficeJet's installation went well: Windows 95 automatically detected it, and it took our testers just a few minutes to install both Hewlett-Packard's OfficeJet Manager and Phoenix Technologies' Eclipse Fax SE software. (Both are included with the unit.) In Microsoft's Word and Corel's WordPerfect, Eclipse Fax SE automatically added icons to allow one-click faxing of documents.

When our testers inserted a document into the OfficeJet, an Autoprompt box appeared on the screen that let them choose faxing, scanning, or copying. Our testers found the prompt useful, but its options limited. Although the OfficeJet lacks some of the fancy features of its competitors like color printing, it integrates well with Windows 95 and is an excellent value.

Color for Loose Change

Canon's MultiPass C2500 is the only MFD our testers looked at that offers color printing, using a 300-dpi bubble-jet printer. It's a great feature considering that the MultiPass C2500 is one of the less expensive units we tested. The fax machine, scanner, and copier don't support color, however. Still, the MultiPass's color output quality was impressive, particularly on coated paper. And our usability testers found that the unit's copier function produced the best-looking output of the MFDs tested.

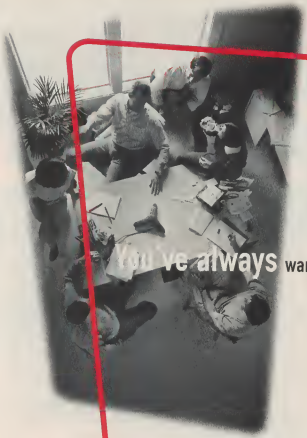
Quality Color: Canon's MultiPass C2500 offers color printing but has so-so software.

MultiPass C2500 / Canon Computer / (800) 423-2366 / $599 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 798*

Despite the MultiPass's great color and reasonable price, its software left our testers wanting more. The software runs constantly in the background, and the included scanning program

Patience Needed: The WorkCenter has powerful but difficult components.

Document WorkCenter 250 / Xerox Corp. / (800) 822-6979 / $699 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 799*



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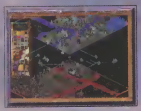

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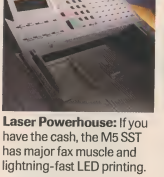
Soho Usability Test



Laser Powerhouse: If you have the cash, the M5 SST has major fax muscle and lightning-fast LED printing.

M5 SST / JetFax / (800) 753-8329 / $3,595 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 800*

prints only to the MultiPass, ignoring any Windows 95 settings.

Strenuous Setup Our usability testers found that setting up Xerox's Document WorkCenter 250 was a true test of patience, and some tasks were even impossible to do.

The Document WorkCenter uses several software packages with very different interfaces. The ControlCenter software won't run unless the parallel port is working—even if you don't need to use a parallel port—which means that using almost any other external hardware is out of the question. And most of our testers couldn't even get Xerox's TextBridge OCR software to run with the unit.

It seems like Xerox was in a rush to get the Document WorkCenter to market. We found a separate envelope containing last-minute software fixes in the box. Let's hope a future update will eliminate the bugs. But for now you can find a far better MFD option.

Muscle Machine JetFax took a decent 300-dpi LED printer and paired it with a fast, high-quality scanning engine. The result? The M5 SST, a machine that's ahead of the competition.

Installation of the M5 SST was smooth, and our testers were pleased at how readily the software handled all the unit's functions. Frequently sent faxes can be stored in memory and sent by pushing a button. Extra-cost options include a second fax line for high-volume use and a 33.6Kbps fax modem (useful only if the receiving fax has a similarly endowed modem). The M5 SST's $3,595 price tag is steep, but the machine's extraordinary speed just might pay for itself over time.

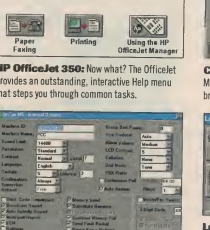
Proudly Printerless: If you already have a printer, the Lumina 2000 handles faxing, scanning, and copying.

Lumina 2000 / Lumina Office Products / (800) 586-4620 / $399 est. street price / *Reader Service No. 801*

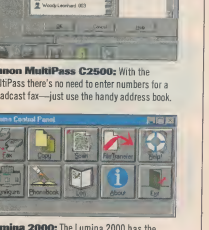
SIDE BY SIDE

MASTER CONTROLS OF **MULTIFUNCTION DEVICES**

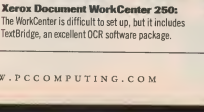
Sure, they can fax up to 50 people at once, but what good are MFDs if you find yourself in a wrestling match every time you want to do something? Our Usability Labs found the real test of these machines was how well they worked with a PC, and how easy it was to use the software.



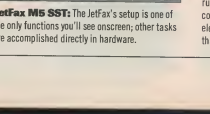
HP OfficeJet 350: Now what? The OfficeJet provides an outstanding, interactive Help menu that steps you through common tasks.



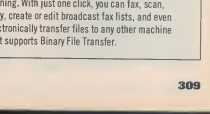
Canon MultiPass C2500: With the MultiPass there's no need to enter numbers for a broadcast fax—just use the handy address book.



Xerox Document WorkCenter 250: The WorkCenter is difficult to set up, but it includes TextBridge, an excellent OCR software package.



JetFax M5 SST: The JetFax's setup is one of the only functions you'll see onscreen; other tasks are accomplished directly in hardware.



Lumina 2000: The Lumina 2000 has the easiest front end, which is always up and running. With just one click, you can fax, scan, copy, create or edit broadcast fax lists, and even electronically transfer files to any other machine that supports Binary File Transfer.

SohoUsability Test

Job Jugglers

	Hewlett-Packard OfficeJet 350	Canon MultiPass C2500	Xerox Document WorkCenter	JetFax M5 SST	Lumina 2000
Printer Type	600-by-300-dpi black-and-white ink jet	300-dpi color bubble jet	300-dpi black-and-white ink jet	300-dpi black-and-white laser	Not applicable
Document Feeder	20 pages	20 pages	20 pages	50 pages	30 pages
Fax Memory	24 pages	42 pages	35 pages	144 pages	8 pages

If you're serious about print and fax quality, this is the machine to consider.

Just Add Printer Why pay for a printer if you already have one? That's the premise behind the Lumina 2000, an inexpensive box that sits next to your printer and turns it into a fax machine, scanner, and copier. The Lumina 2000 works with any color or black-and-white laser printer, but it faxes, scans, and copies in black and white only.

Its software works well with Windows 95, and the unit includes Eclipse Fax for faxing and DocuMagix's PaperMaster SE for document filing.

Unfortunately, the Lumina 2000 doesn't include a paper tray, and it's too big to sit on top of many printers. But if you already invested in a laser printer, the Lumina 2000 is an excellent add-on.

Paper Pushers So is it time to clear off your desk and purchase an MFD? Hewlett-Packard's OfficeJet 350 is ideal for budget-minded offices that need dependable printing and faxing. And for the same low price as the OfficeJet 350's, Canon's MultiPass C2500 adds color printing, but its faxing and scanning are average. If you can spend $3,595 for high-quality laser printing and serious broadcast fax features, JetFax's M5 SST is for you. And finally, if you already invested in a high-quality laser printer, the Lumina 2000 is an inexpensive and space-saving choice for faxing, scanning, and copying. **WOODY LEONHARD**

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Labnotes

Each multifunction device tested was attached to a Pentium machine running Windows 95. Our usability testers installed the software according to the manufacturer's instructions, and ran the tests in factory-default mode (which generally favors speed over quality). The Lumina 2000 was connected to Hewlett-Packard's LaserJet 4 printer.

For faxing, we had each device send and receive faxes (of various document sizes) from other PCs running Windows 95, as well as from stand-alone fax machines. Our users also tested how easy it was to store fax numbers for individuals and groups, store pages in memory, and send a broadcast fax.

In the copying test, our testers made a copy of a magazine page at 100 percent (no reduction) and reviewed the results. For scanning, our testers scanned the same magazine page with the included software, and tested how easy it was to run OCR software and manipulate images.

Print quality was judged by the consensus of our usability testers. Finally, testers looked at how well all the MFD's components worked with the included software and Windows 95.

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Please answer questions below:

1. Where do you use your computer? (Check one only):
   1. ☐ Home 2. ☐ Business 3. ☐ Both
2. What kinds of computers do you use? (Check all that apply):
   1. ☐ IBM/Compatible Laptop 2. ☐ IBM/Compatible Desktop 3. ☐ MAC
3. Do you plan to buy any of the hardware or software mentioned below in the next three months? (Check all that apply):

HARDWARE
1. ☐ PC
2. ☐ MAC
3. ☐ Laptop
4. ☐ Printer
5. ☐ Monitor
6. ☐ Disk/Tape Back-up
7. ☐ Add-in Board
8. ☐ Modem
9. ☐ Input Device
10. ☐ Local Area Network
11. ☐ UPS

SOFTWARE
12. ☐ Accounting
13. ☐ Spreadsheet
14. ☐ Personal Finance
15. ☐ Desktop Publishing
16. ☐ Word Processor
17. ☐ Database Manager
18. ☐ Graphics
19. ☐ Utility
20. ☐ Communications
21. ☐ Windows 95

22. ☐ Programming Language/Compiler
23. ☐ Integrated/Multifunction
24. ☐ CAD
25. ☐ CD-ROM
26. ☐ On-Line Services

4. From which of the following sources do you purchase personal computer products? (Check all that apply):
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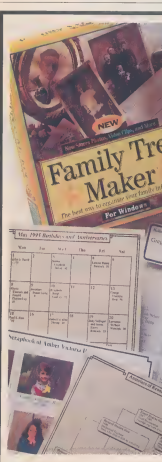

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BY RICH SCHWERIN

INTERNET SEARCH TOOLS

The Great **Web Hunt**

Who has time to surf the Web anymore? These days you don't surf the Web—you search it. But finding what you need often involves far more searching than it should.

Sure, there are dozens of search sites out there to help you zero in on specific information. But most search engines are far from perfect and often serve up inaccurate or irrelevant hits. Try to find the population of Jordan, for example, and you're more likely to turn up basketball stats on Michael Jordan. Look up microbreweries, and you could wind up with a detailed itinerary of some guy's college road trip. There's got to be a better way—and now, with the arrival of a new crop of Internet-search technologies, there is.

Infoseek's Ultraseek boasts more than 1 million Web pages, and Digital's Alta Vista Search Service catalogs more than 30 million. But HotWired's HotBot, a new search engine based on technology licensed from Inktomi (named for a mythological spider that brought culture to the Native Americans of the Plains), is the most comprehensive search site yet, providing a full-text index of more than 50 million pages. To help you sift through all these pages, HotBot uses parallel processing to enhance its speed. The search engine also yields more timely and relevant information.

Like many search engines, HotBot comes with a feature (called SmartRelevance) that indexes and records the position of every word found on a Web page. But unlike other tools, HotBot provides advanced-query features that go beyond simple keyword searching. What's more, it hides its advanced features—such as Boolean logic—behind an elegant, easy-to-use interface. HotBot recognizes and indexes advanced formats like Sun Microsystems' Java, Macromedia's Shockwave, VRML, and multimedia files. You can personalize HotBot's interface by setting up a profile of preferences. And if you don't mind wading through a little advertising, you can use HotBot free of charge.

Although HotBot shows great promise, even greater innovations lie ahead. By year's end, search engines that actually get smarter as time passes—by learning what the majority of people are searching for and successfully finding—should find their way to the Web. Several labs are already at work on them.

Hot on the Trail: Finding stuff on the Web can be impossible, but smart new search tools make it easier.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETER ALAN GIULIC; PHOTO COURTESY OF UPI/CORBIS-BETTMANN

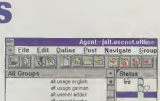
FREE HITS

INTERNET TOOLS

Surfbot

A must for any serious Web surfer, this Windows 95 Internet robot automatically grabs Web pages, downloads them to your computer, and lets you browse through them offline. Surfbot does all its work in the background, letting you get on with the rest of your computing life.

File: SRFBT.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 1161K/ 40 seconds



Free Agent

The best Usenet newsgroup reader you'll find, bar none. Read and respond to messages offline, search message threads, and automatically decode attached binary files. An e-mail module is included.

File: FAGENT.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 717K/ 25 seconds

WebThing

A superb Windows 95 HTML editor featuring a host of toolbars that make designing your own Web page a breeze.

File: WEBTHG.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 1,939K/ 70 seconds

E-mail Connection

This Internet version of the popular E-mail Connection program lets you easily send, receive, and manage your Internet e-mail.

File: MCONN.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 1,287K/ 45 seconds

Personal Stock Monitor

Retrieve stock quotes over the Internet for free. Enter the stock symbols, and Personal Stock Monitor accesses a quote server and sends you the prices. It also delivers high and low price alerts and automatically retrieves quotes at any time interval you specify.

File: PSM.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 286K/ 10 seconds

FrameGang

This tool makes building Netscape's Navigator frames easy. Even if you

*ESTIMATED DOWNLOAD TIMES ARE CITED AT 28.8KBPS. ACTUAL TIMES VARY. ALL FILES ARE AVAILABLE AT WWW.PCCOMPUTING.COM

have no knowledge of frame coding, FrameGang lets you build home pages visually and interactively.

File: FRAMG.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 2141K/ 75 seconds

CuteFTP

Say goodbye to the FTP command line and those awkward file transfers when you use CuteFTP. You're not going to find a better graphical FTP program.

File: CFTP.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 295K/ 10 seconds

PROGRAMS/UTILITIES

SmartBoard

This superb Clipboard extender adds some life to the anemic Windows Clipboard. It lets you retrieve and organize multiple clips.

File: SMTBRD.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 344K/ 12 seconds

TopDesk

Get fast access to all your Windows 95 desktop shortcuts, folders, and objects.

Instead of minimizing your running applications, click on the Windows 95 system tray, and up pops a list of all the apps on your desktop. To launch any of them, just click.

File: TOPDSK.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 67K/ 3 seconds

Cool Edit 95

The best Windows 3.1 sound-editing shareware is now available for Windows 95. Manipulate sounds any way you want—reverse, compress, filter, and create echo and reverb effects. Cool Edit 95 handles VOC, VOX, WAV, and PCM files, and includes a full-featured CD player.

File: COOL32.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 1,090K/ 40 seconds

CD-Quick Cache

Speed up any CD-ROM drive with this caching software. It stores frequently read data in RAM or a combination of RAM and hard disk space to make your CD-ROM read at lightning-fast speeds.

File: CDQC32.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 335K/ 12 seconds

SnagIt/32

If you ever have to print Windows screens or capture them to a file, SnagIt/32 can help. It lets you capture entire screens or portions of

them, and save them in a variety of graphics formats.

File: SNAG32.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 379K/ 15 seconds

GAMES

Duke Nukem 3D

Who says life has to be all work? Blast your way to glory with this full-action 3-D game set in a futuristic version of Los Angeles. Duke

Nukem 3D features better gaming than Doom, but has graphic violence and adult content. Parental controls are built in.

File: 3DDUKE.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 5772K/ 3 hours, 20 minutes

Depth Charge—Deep Blue Troubles

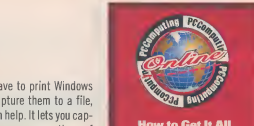
Man your battle stations! Launch Depth Charge—Deep Blue Troubles and blast away! This program comes about as close as you can get to being on a minesweeping naval destroyer. It features great graphics, sound effects, and animation.

File: DEPCHG.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 433K/ 15 seconds

Tyrian

Arcade game fans should download Tyrian immediately. This extraterrestrial shoot-'em-up sends you into outer space to wage war on spaceships and other civilizations.

File: TYRIAN.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 1781K/ 65 seconds



EDUCATION

Roxie's ABC Fish

Teach preschoolers the alphabet with this fun game. The great sounds and animations will have your kids learning in no time.

File: RABCF.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 490K/ 20 seconds

DC Challenge

This game-style program features 13 exercises to help you learn about or teach electricity and electronics.

File: DCCHAL.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 320K/ 12 seconds

HOME/HOBBY

Car Book Plus for Windows

Track auto expenses, mechanics' fees, and routine maintenance with this easy-to-use program.

File: CBPW.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 420K/ 15 seconds

Nutrisoft Compleat Nutritionist

Lay off the bacon cheeseburgers already! Analyze your nutritional intake and structure a weight-loss program with help from this utility.

File: NSCN.ZIP **Size/Time*:** 738K/ 16 seconds

Inter.net is edited by RICH SCHWERIN. *All Free Hits downloads are supplied by the ZDNet Software Library at www.zdnet.com/zdi/software. Contributors:* PRESTON GRALLA *(Free Hits),* CHRIS LINDQUIST, ED BOTT, *and* RON WHITE. *Send Internet secrets to* RICH SCHWERIN *at Rich_Schwerin@zd.com.*

Package Deals: Everything in One Place

Windows Security Toolkit

Are you sure your personal files and programs are safe from snoopers? The Windows Security Toolkit offers five security programs—including an encryption tool and a system-locking utility—plus advice on how to use them.

Site: www.zdnet.com/zdi/software/toolkits/tlkt0596.html

Preston's Picks

Want the lowdown on the best shareware programs on the Internet? Then check out Preston Gralla's online column, Preston's Picks, where the noted shareware guru and author of the PC Computing Guide to Shareware site picks his personal favorites.

Site: www.zdnet.com/zdi/software/prespick/presomt.html

Image Catalog Roundup

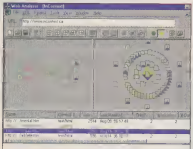
Get a handle on the graphics and multimedia files that are filling up your hard disk. Here are five of the best cataloging programs available.

Site: www.zdnet.com/zdi/software/roundups/mdp0895.html

Web Essentials

BY RICH SCHWERIN

Only a year ago you could count the number of must-have Internet applications on one hand. But these days, finding the best tools is a full-time job. Fortunately, we've done the hard work for you. From browsers and utilities to applets and plug-ins, each month we download all the newest tools and review them. See something you like? Check out www.pccomputing.com.



WebAnalyzer: Webmasters, keep your site current and your links valid with InContext's WebAnalyzer.

Shockwave: Enjoy multimedia animation, sound, and high-res graphics with Macromedia's plug-in.

PointCast Network 1.0: PointCast Network brings you up-to-the-moment news and information for free.

PRODUCT	Verdict
InContext WebAnalyzer $149 list price (800) 263-0127 *Reader Service No. 806*	★★★★★ Keeping your Web site fresh and up-to-date can be a real headache, and InContext's WebAnalyzer provides quick pain relief. WebAnalyzer offers a comprehensive, graphical view of every page and link on your site and lets you fix problems effortlessly.
Macromedia Shockwave Free; (800) 288-4797 *Reader Service No. 807*	★★★★★ Dive into fully interactive multimedia over the Web—including animation, sound, and high-resolution graphics—with Macromedia's free Shockwave plug-in.
Microsoft Internet Information Server Free with Windows NT 4.0 Server (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 808*	★★★★★ One of the best Windows NT–based Web servers is *free*—and it's well integrated into the latest version of Microsoft's enterprise operating system. Internet Information Server boasts powerful security, mind-blowing performance, and seamless management features.
PointCast Network 1.0 Free; (800) 586-4733 *Reader Service No. 809*	★★★★★ If you don't mind a few pesky advertisements, you'll enjoy personalized news, sports, weather, and business and stock-market info 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The PointCast Network client is free, and so is the content.
Progressive Networks RealAudio Player 2.0 Free; (800) 230-5975 *Reader Service No. 810*	★★★★★ Turn your browser into a global radio receiver with Progressive Networks' RealAudio Player 2.0. Instead of downloading sound files, RealAudio lets you get live, streaming audio from a number of sources, including NPR, ABC, and PBS. Sounds great!
Quarterdeck WebCompass Personal Edition Free; (800) 683-6696 *Reader Service No. 811*	★★★★★ Searching the Net for something specific can be frustratingly difficult. Quarterdeck's WebCompass Personal Edition lets you query multiple search engines in parallel using a straightforward interface.
Virtus 3-D Website Builder $99 est. street price (800) 847-8871 *Reader Service No. 812*	★★★★★ Build your own three-dimensional VRML worlds quickly and easily with 3-D Website Builder's cool drag-and-drop interface. It's a great way to add true-life walk-through dimensions to an otherwise flat, two-dimensional site.
VocalTec Internet Phone 3.2 $49 est. street price (800) 843-2289, (201) 768-9400 *Reader Service No. 813*	★★★★★ VocalTec's Internet Phone 3.2 lets you call friends and businesses worldwide over Internet protocol connections. The sound quality is amazing, and the phone calls are free. Plus, VocalTec offers a trial copy for download.
Berkeley Systems Web.Max $39 est. street price (800) 344-5541, (510) 540-5535 *Reader Service No. 814*	★★★★★ With Web.Max, Berkeley Systems makes Internet utilities fun. Web.Max includes Net Retriever, a search tool; Web.Max TV, a news-retrieval module; Web.Max Phone, a Web phone; and Max, an animated dog that lives on your desktop and helps you surf the Net.

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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ProClass PC288LCD V.34 Exceptional performance and unique vertical design. Large LCD text display provides 50+ status messages. Easy to use menu buttons. Up to 230K bps throughput. Windows data and fax communications software. Lifetime limited warranty.

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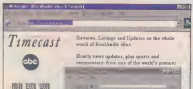

RealAudio Player 2.0: Progressive Networks' RealAudio Player turns your browser into a radio receiver.

3-D Website Builder: Don't settle for a flat, static, 2-D site. Build a dynamic VRML world with Virtus's Web tool.

Internet Phone 3.2: VocalTec's Net phone is a terrific way to place long-distance calls via TCP/IP.

ABC QuickSilver: Micrografx's free QuickSilver plug-in lets you edit graphics and publish them on the Web.

PRODUCT	Verdict
Corel Web.Gallery $69 est. street price (800) 772-6735, (613) 728-3733 *Reader Service No. 815*	★★★★ The Canadian clip-art kings have served up another winner with Web.Gallery, a collection of more than 7,500 graphics files and over 215 photographs customized to spice up your Web pages. It gives you plenty of bullets, buttons, and banners, too. Beautiful.
Globalink Web Translator $50 est. street price (800) 255-5660 *Reader Service No. 816*	★★★★ *Parlez-vous Web? ¿Se habla Web? Sprechen sie Web?* Globalink's Web Translator can translate sites shown in French, Spanish, or German into English—and vice versa—automatically! The translations aren't always perfect, but it works.
Graphix Zone ExpressNet Suite $49 est. street price (800) 828-3838 *Reader Service No. 817*	★★★★ For one low price, Graphix Zone's ExpressNet Suite includes Netscape's Navigator 2.0, Net access via the EarthLink Network, a Navigator tutorial, Internet Phone, SurfWatch, more than a half-dozen plug-ins, and a microphone.
InterGo Communications InterGo $50 est. street price (214) 424-7882 *Reader Service No. 818*	★★★★ Parents, students, and educators who want to tap into the Internet's vast research reservoir should grab a copy of InterGo. It includes a Web browser and access to InterGo's selection of links to educational and research-oriented sites on the Net.
Metz Netriever $39 est. street price (800) 447-1712 *Reader Service No. 819*	★★★★ Like any good dog, Metz Netriever fetches stuff so you don't have to. It's an easy-to-customize browsing utility that automatically retrieves Web text and graphics and saves them locally for quick, offline access.
Micrografx ABC QuickSilver Free; (800) 676-3110 *Reader Service No. 820*	★★★★★ Mark down ABC QuickSilver as a must-have on your plug-in list. QuickSilver lets you use Micrografx's ABC Graphics Suite on the Internet, so you can place, view, and interact with graphic objects inside Web pages.
Microsoft FrontPage 1.1 $149 est. street price (800) 426-9400 *Reader Service No. 821*	★★★★ Microsoft's FrontPage is one of the best ways to set your sites on the Web. After acquiring Vermeer, the creator of FrontPage, Microsoft slashed the software's price, added Web page creation wizards, and packed it with features.
DocuMagix HotPage 1.0 $79 est. street price (800) 362-8624 *Reader Service No. 822*	★★★ With HotPage, DocuMagix took its document-management expertise and applied it to Netscape's Navigator. HotPage captures and organizes Web content into a File Cabinet, where you can manage, link, and merge pages quickly and easily.
First Floor Smart Bookmarks 2.0 Free; (800) 639-6387 *Reader Service No. 823*	★★★ Organize and monitor your favorite Web sites for new and updated information using Smart Bookmarks' intelligent-agent technology. Includes Yahoo's top 350 Web sites, already bookmarked.
Grasp Information KnowIt All $50 est. street price (800) 683-2561 *Reader Service No. 824*	★★★ If you can't keep track of phone numbers, contacts, and appointments without a personal information manager, why try to manage your Web wanderings without one? KnowIt All lets you collect, organize, categorize, and assimilate the wealth of information you gather online into a convenient and useful knowledge base.
Iconovex WebAnchor $49 list price (800) 943-0292 *Reader Service No. 825*	★★★ Saving a lot of Web pages on your hard disk for research? Get organized and indexed with Iconovex's WebAnchor. It analyzes HTML and rich text format documents, finds significant words and phrases, and compiles a useful index that hyperlinks the terms.
LinkStar Site Launcher Free; (954) 426-1350 *Reader Service No. 826*	★★★ You've constructed a killer home page. Now what? Eliminate the hassles of uploading your page to an ISP's server with LinkStar's Site Launcher. It's a free, one-click publishing solution that makes putting up your home page easy.

★★★★★ *Excellent* ★★★★ *Good* ★★★ *Acceptable* ★★ *Poor* ★ *Unacceptable*

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PC/Computing

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Wired for Finance

BY CHRISTOPHER LINDQUIST

Money, money, money. Every business could use more of it. The Web is full of information on how to make—and keep—as much of that hard-earned cash as possible. Of course time is money too, so we decided to save you both by compiling some of the best financial resources on the Web.

How to Get It All

Link to all the sites and downloads in Inter.net at WWW.PCCOMPUTING.COM

LOANS That great idea won't mean much if you can't come up with the dollars to put it into action. Hit these sites for information on public and private funding sources and venture-capital firms.

BankWeb Web sites of hundreds of U.S. banks organized by state, and dozens of international banks listed by geographic area. www.bankweb.com

FinanceHub If you're looking for capital, add your idea to this searchable database used by investors. www.catalog.com/intersof/vc

Financing Your Business A comprehensive list of government-funded programs to help you get your business off the ground. www.sbaonline.sba.gov/business_finances

Yahoo! VC Directory Dozens of companies want to give you money! Yahoo's index of venture-capital companies is a great place to look for them. www.yahoo.com/Business/Corporations/Financial_Services/Financing/Venture_Capital

TAXES There are three sure things in life: death, taxes, and the Web. Although writing checks to Uncle Sam will never be much fun, these Web-based tax-information resources may take some of the sting out of April 15.

IRS Home Page Everything you need to know about taxes, plus tons of filing tips and dozens of forms for individuals and businesses. www.irs.ustreas.gov

Maxwell Laboratories Taxing Times 1996 A list of links to state-tax information, phone numbers, and Web sites. www.scubed.com/tax/state/state_index.html

Research Institute of America The latest news on federal, state, and local taxes, as well as retirement- and estate-planning information. www.riatax.com

Tax World Local, national, and international taxation lore, and a unique section on tariffs dubbed "A History of Taxation." omer.cba.neu.edu

ORGANIZATIONS No one likes to go it *completely* alone—not even entrepreneurs. Look here for instant access to information from many small-business organizations. You'll also find helpful tips on handling your finances.

National Small Business Development Center Research Network A clearinghouse filled with resources for small businesses. www.smallbiz.suny.edu

National Small Business United Up-to-the-minute legislative information that could affect your business finances. www.nsbu.org

Small Business Foundation of America A useful collection of executive summaries culled from research on small businesses. pinakes.miep.org/sbfa

GOVERNMENT The federal government isn't all bureaucrats, red tape, and sound bites. Several government organizations maintain top-notch Web sites packed with useful business and financial information.

FedWorld Information Network A one-stop site with links to just about every federal agency that's online today. www.fedworld.gov

Small Business Administration Links to small-business information, including state and federal regulations. www.sbaonline.sba.gov

U.S. Business Advisor A gateway to the U.S. Postal Service and more. www.business.gov

DIRECTORIES If you're on a business-specific search, don't waste hours with a general-purpose search engine. All you have to do is look here—the following sites contain lists of financial-services companies geared toward businesses.

The All-Internet Business-to-Business Directory A comprehensive directory with thousands of links to all types of businesses. www.webcom.com/bztobiz

Commercial Finance Online Search for financial services in more than 30 categories, including accounting, bookkeeping, credit investigation, and banking. www.cfonline.com

World Wide Web Virtual Library You name it, it's here—you'll find information on jobs in finance, security price quotes, and much more. state.edu/dept/fin/overvw.htm

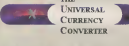
WALL STREET Keep tabs on your investments and stay in touch with news that affects your business—it's all here.

Bloomberg Personal A great source for worldwide financial news. www.bloomberg.com

CNN Financial Network Loads of up-to-date financial information from CNN. You can even download transcripts from recent programs. www.cnnfn.com

E-Trade This inexpensive service handles all your securities trading. You also get 20-minute–delayed stock quotes. www.etrade.com

Global Cash: Exchange Rates



MONETARY CONVERSION

Need to know how many marks, guilders, or lira your dollars will buy? Want to calculate the payment on that potential loan? These sites will give you a hand.

GNN/Koblas Currency Converter An easy-to-use site that tracks currency exchange rates on a weekly basis. bin.gnn.com/cgi-bin/gnn/currency

Hugh Chou's Financial Page Financial calculators for mortgages, loans, and leases, plus links to other finance-related Web sites. ibc.wustl.edu/mort_links.html

The Universal Currency Converter Choose your starting and ending currencies, and this site will convert the values for you. www.xe.net/currency

Put Newsgroups to Work

BY ED BOTT

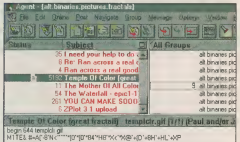
Internet newsgroups inhabit the oldest, dustiest corner of cyberspace—a place where plain text is the only currency that counts, and there's plenty of it to go around. All told, Internet newsgroups handle more than 500MB of text-only traffic each day. And while much of it is meaningless babble, there's gold to be found there as well. If you aren't aware of what's in the newsgroups or how to sort through them, you're missing some of the most useful and entertaining information on the Net.

By far the most popular source of Internet news is Usenet. The organizational standards of Usenet have changed very little since its early days: Groups of messages are stored in newsgroups, which are arranged in strict hierarchies that define what subscribers can expect to find in each.

The Usenet hierarchy follows the dot-naming convention found elsewhere on the Net. Top-level domains include *comp* for computer-related subjects (such as comp.os.os2.advocacy); *rec* for hobbies, the arts, and pop culture; *soc* for social issues and world culture; and *sci* for science-related subjects. There are a variety of unofficial newsgroup hierarchies as well, including the infamous *alt* category, home of alt.binaries .pictures.erotica.tasteless and other groups guaranteed to raise the blood pressure of any bluenose. There are also local newsgroups (try ba.food for San Francisco Bay Area restaurant recommendations), as well as private groups for subscribers of Internet service providers like Netcom. A well-stocked server can include a staggering 14,000 groups.

A well-stocked Usenet news server can include 14,000 newsgroups, which handle up to 500MB of data per day.

Inside each newsgroup you'll find scores of messages, each consisting of a header, a subject line, and an expiration date. Follow-up messages use reference numbers to organize lengthy conversations into outline-style threads that readers can use to keep track of the online flow of information and ideas.



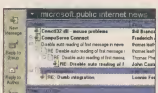
The Best Newsreader by Far: Forte's Free Agent is available in 16-bit and 32-bit versions, with a dazzling array of news-handling options.

To tap into Internet news, you need newsreader software. Most Web browsers also handle news (type news:* for a list of available newsgroups). First, though, you need access to a news server, which you can get either through your employer or by using an Internet service provider along with a newsreader like Forte's Agent. You also need patience to work your way through flames (personal attacks), spam (wildly off-topic, usually commercial posts), and other bandwidth-sucking distractions.

Tips, Tricks, and Techniques

If your time is valuable, invest in an offline newsreader.
Even if your Internet service provider doesn't charge by the hour, you'll benefit from using a good offline newsreader; keep in mind that even the best-managed news hosts regularly bog down under the weight of Network News Transfer Protocol traffic. If you slow down to the network's pace, you'll spend more time looking at the hourglass than reading news threads. Offline newsreaders, on the other hand, save you a lot of time because they gather news for you while you work on something else.

What's the best newsreader?
If you insist on a newsreader that supports message threads, you have three excellent no-cost choices. The best is Forte's Free Agent, which lets you work online or off, download headers on one



Windows 95 Required: Microsoft's Internet News and Mail Reader is a 32-bit app.

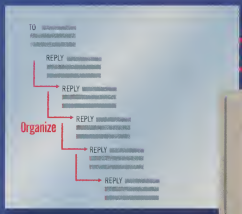
pass, disconnect, and tag topics for retrieval on a second pass. If your news needs aren't demanding and you already use Netscape's Navigator 2.0 or later, check out Netscape's serviceable news client, which unfortunately doesn't do offline processing. Not to be outdone, Microsoft made a beta version of its promising Internet News and Mail Reader available for free download shortly after it quit CompuServe and opened its own news server in April.

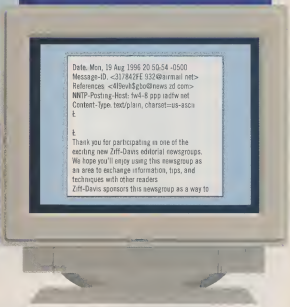
Before posting a question, check the frequently asked questions (FAQs).
Why? First, because they're the fastest way to get answers (and in the process you'll probably find answers to questions you didn't even know to ask). And second, because you'll avoid inspiring flames, which are lousy for your blood pressure and add to the noise level on the newsgroup. The best place to look for FAQs is in the set of newsgroups designated as *.answers. The mother of all FAQs, with upwards of 900 files, is news.answers. There you'll find information ranging from the trivial (cult TV shows and more information on body piercing than you probably want to know) to the serious (a half-dozen religions are there, along with detailed information on organ transplants, depression

HOW IT WORKS — INTERNET NEWSGROUPS

News Hosts provide a direct link to Usenet news. The host's owner decides which newsgroups live on the server and who can access the news feed. The server keeps messages up-to-date by exchanging files with other cooperating news hosts.

Organization is the server's primary job. It uses information in message headers to arrange posts into hierarchical threads within each newsgroup. Host software conserves disk space by automatically deleting messages after a specified time has passed.





News Postings consist of message headers, which store details like the author's name and the ID of the message to which the header refers. The message body contains only ASCII text, although UUencoding utilities let you share binary files such as graphic images.

support groups, and several other sobering topics).

How do you find a specific post in a sea of news messages?

Try a Usenet-aware search engine such as Digital's Alta Vista

Exciting Newsgroups: Try Excite's Usenet search engine to find specific news messages.

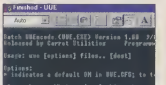
(www.altavista.digital.com) or Excite (www.excite.com). Both services include extensive news feeds and allow full-text searches of their archives. Best of all, when you find a message of interest, you can use your Web browser to read it immediately without having to open a separate application. Make sure you select the Usenet option before clicking on the Search button.

How private are the posts you send?

Newsgroup postings are anything but private. If you expect the comments you post to a newsgroup to be restricted to a small circle of regular participants, think again. Thanks to online search engines, nearly anyone can track down anything you've posted to Usenet simply by searching for a few keywords, your name, or your e-mail address. Ask yourself how you feel about today's casual comment becoming instantly accessible to a prospective employer tomorrow—or five years from now—before you click on the Send button. Think twice; post once.

Newsreaders can send and receive text only, but you can use news postings to exchange binary files.

It's common to see nontext files (typically graphic images, less commonly executable files) sent as newsgroup messages. The trick is converting these files to encoded text, posting them as one or more messages, then decoding them at the receiving end. There are dozens of UUencode/UUdecode

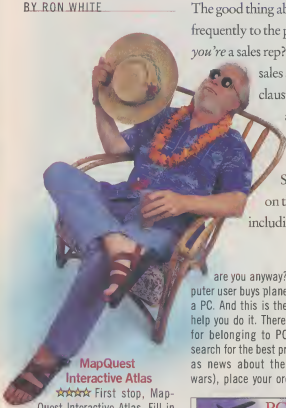


Encode, Decode: Usenet can translate graphics and other binary files into ASCII text.

utilities, and most decent newsreaders handle the task automatically, including the three newsreaders mentioned earlier.

Webward, Ho!

BY RON WHITE



The good thing about business travel is that it happens most frequently to the people who deserve it: salesmen. Oh, *you're* a sales rep? Nothing personal, pal. We've all been in sales at one time or another. But you know what I mean—the coach-class claustrophobia, mattresses as soggy as waffles, waffles that taste like mattresses, and the if-it's-Tuesday-I-must-be-in-the-wrong-city feeling of disorientation. The Internet's no upgrade to first class, but it softens the bumps and freshens the stale mind when you have to be on the road. Serious business travelers should take our advice: Get online before you get on that plane, train, or automobile. You'll find a bounty of travel resources, including the gems we've culled for you here.

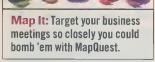
How to Get It All

Link to all the sites and downloads in Inter.net at

WWW.PCCOMPUTING.COM

MapQuest Interactive Atlas

★★★★ First stop, MapQuest Interactive Atlas. Fill in the addresses of the businesses you'll be visiting, and get street maps packed with landmarks and street names. But forget panning and zooming the maps—they're slow enough to make roses blooming look like a contact sport.

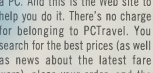


Map It: Target your business meetings so closely you could bomb 'em with MapQuest.

www.mapquest.com

PCTravel

★★★★ Hold it! Don't call your travel agent. What kind of wimp are you anyway? A real computer user buys plane tickets with a PC. And this is the Web site to help you do it. There's no charge for belonging to PCTravel. You search for the best prices (as well as news about the latest fare wars), place your order, and the tickets arrive the very next day. The site maintains a profile of your preferences, making ticket buying easier than a phone call.



Take Flight: Fly the friendly skies of your PC—buy your airline tickets with PCTravel.

www.pctravel.com

TravelWeb

★★★ PCTravel got you off to a good start. Now hitch up your PC to TravelWeb to make your hotel reservations. This site lets you choose from dozens of features and price ranges, and you can even see photos of prospective hotels. Then use TravelWeb to make your reservations. Simple, n'est-ce pas?

www.travelweb.com

Staying Healthy in Asia, Africa, and Latin America

★★★ The main goal of any trip is returning alive. Dirk Schroeder, a research associate at Emory University—a guy with *Sc D, MPH* behind his name—is on your side. He lays on more than you really want to know about immunizations, malaria, blood transfusions, insect bites, what you can eat and drink, and, uh, personal cleanliness. But sooner or later you're going to visit this site—either now when it can do you some good, or later when you have to drag your notebook into the hotel bathroom.

www.moon.com/staying.healthy/travel-.health.html

Currency Converter

★★★★★ Did you know you just gave that waiter a $200 tip? Are you crazy? Surf to Xenon Laboratories' Currency Converter, type in a dollar amount, and get up-to-date conversions to any of 49 foreign currencies. It's a wonder your mother let you out alone.

Cash In: Currency Converter does just one thing. But it does it extremely well.

www.taponline.com/tap/travel/xenon.html

The World Bank

★★★★ Now that you've got the right kind of change in your pockets, you may need to know, oh, the price of logs in Cameroon. You can find out prices of commodities around the world and access spreadsheets full of additional economic data from The World Bank.

www.worldbank.org

t@p Online

★★★★★ No trip is complete without a Turkish bath, and there's none better than the Gellert Baths located at the side entrance of the Hotel Gellert in Budapest. This is just one of the tidbits you can glean from the travel section of t@p

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID PERRY

Ratings: ★★★★★ Oh, Concorde attendant! More champagne!! ★★★★ Business class, en route to Jamaica. ★★★ Coach to Tulsa, between two fat guys. ★★ Greyhound to Newfoundland. One-way. ★ Thumbing to nowhere in partic—Hey! Yeah, same to you!

Online, which is also the source of Currency Converter. The online magazine's travel stories are clever and authoritatively written—both real and armchair travelers will

Tap into Travel: T@p Online gives you the lowdown on all kinds of world travel.

enjoy them. The entire online magazine is cool, for that matter.

www.taponline.com/tap/travel/

WebFlyer

☆☆☆☆ Now you tell me if this makes sense: You spend several miserable hours on an airplane. Some dinosaur is sitting across the aisle snoring like a chain saw, and the kid behind you has already broken three of your ribs with his kicking. But, you tell yourself, at least you're getting all those frequent-flier miles—so you can spend even more miserable hours on a plane. OK, if you understand that, then check out WebFlyer. It's put together by Randy Petersen, a guy who's so obsessed by frequent-flier

Mileage Mania: Earn frequent-flier miles simply by browsing the Web.

miles that, well, I find it kind of scary myself. The site includes 800 Web pages containing 600 graphics, all of which let you figure to the inch how far different airlines' miles will carry you.

www.insideflyer.com/

Annual Freddie Awards

☆☆☆☆ While you're at WebFlyer, check out the nearby Annual Freddie Awards. The site's first concern is frequent-flier programs, natch, and there are so many award categories that it makes the Emmy Awards seem reasonable. Find out what others think about the rewards programs of airlines and hotel chains.

www.insideflyer.com/freddie/freddies.htm

Jet-Lag Sites

☆☆☆ Jet-lagged after all that traveling around? Check out the Sunbox Designs page. The company will be happy to sell you an illumination device that cures jet lag—and the winter blahs. And the Melatonin Central site tells you how melatonin cures the lag.

Sunbox Designs: www.sunbox.co.uk
Melatonin Central: www.melatonin.com

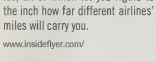
Air Sickness Bag Home Page

☆☆ Still feeling a bit queasy? Maybe it's time to rush over to the Air Sickness Bag Home Page. Steven J. Slickpicklehamburger (yeah, way subtle) created this virtual museum from his collection of bags. He names and describes more than 100, but he includes a photo of only one. Strange, but it sort of figures.

rampages.onramp.net/~stevebo/airsick.html

Asian Sources On-Line

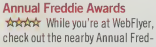
☆☆☆☆ I'm sure you know not to book a business deal in New Delhi



Asian Know-how: Learn the cultural ins and outs of Asia before your next trip.

on October 2. Why? It's Mahatma Gandhi's birthday, you culturally myopic white European male! Before you plan a trip to Asia, check out Asian Sources On-Line's public-holidays page. There are also links to information about Asian airlines and hotels.

www.asiansources.com



Asphalt: After a trip, we all have horror stories to tell. Here are some you may recognize.

Road Kill Diaries

☆☆☆☆☆ If the World Wide Web can't do anything to alleviate your traveling blues, it can at least commiserate with you. Tune in to Road Kill Diaries, a series of anonymously written, angst-filled travel horror stories. You'll also find helpful and informative entries about airlines and hotels, as well as tips on how to survive your next trip.

www.tridentgroup.com/roadkill.htm

IN LOVE? But shy or a bit tongue-tied? Cyrano Server will write a personalized love letter you can pass off as your own to your lady or gentleman love.

www.nando.net/toys/cyrano.html

THINGS THAT GO BUMP

Join Roadkills-R-Us to get the latest going prices for creatures who have bit the asphalt. Then the next time you go driving, don't come back empty-handed.

www.rru.com/rru

LOOKING FOR A FUNERAL? Make your plans using Ed's Ill Celebrity Server. Check the health of ailing celebrities, or suggest your own additions to this morbid list.

www.tiac.net/users/efoley/

FORGET HALLMARK Create electronic greeting cards using your own words and an assortment of designs and artwork ranging from Batman to the Sistine Chapel to A-bombs.

www.tenn.com/igc/lettershort.html

NET, CRACKLE, POP

Flake World is a tribute to our favorite breakfast repast. Also, cereal boxes as art, and a parade of the toys that came inside them.

www.flake.com

JUST CALL ME LONNA Do you, too, suspect you have a Hawaiian name? Find it here—and after your ancestral roots are restored, linger and explore the virtual isles.

hisurf.aloha.com/Find.html

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HotList

by JACK LYON

Bookmarks of the Rich and Famous

And . . . action! This month our spies fed candy to aliens, wrestled with dinosaurs, and even survived a few Kate Capshaw movies just to take a sneak peek at the secret bookmark list of Hollywood wunderkind Steven Spielberg. And just as we thought, the publicity-shy moviemaker lets his work speak for itself. See what lies behind the eye of the dynamo director—here and online at www.pccomputing.com.

SELECT FILMOGRAPHY

Jaws
Orthodontics
www.dataplusnet.com/ao/ae.html

E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial
Illegal Alien
www.bath.ac.uk/~py3dl/g/motorsport/GC.illegal.alien

The Color Purple
What Princess Diana Keeps
www.usatoday.com/life/special/royal005.htm

Empire of the Sun
Sun Microsystems
www.sun.com/

The Flintstones
Geology Home Page
www.bishop.hawaii.org/bishop/geology/geology.html

Back to the Future
Albert Einstein
www.ecn.ccf.it/Einstein.html

Close Encounters of the Third Kind
Elvis Sightings
www.nfl.net/~blake/

Twister
Chubby Checker
www.cdj.com.br/cdj/labels/charlyrcd1043.htm

Gremlins
The History of American Motors
home.worldweb.net/~stoney/amv.html

Gremlins 2: The New Batch
1996 Dodge Neon
www.4sodoge.com/neon/

Poltergeist
The Art of Noise
www.jbtab.mussun.edu/~atmsjon/aon.html

Something Evil
The Spam Haiku Archive
www.nacc.edu/~gshalspam/sha.html

The Land Before Time
New York City Subway Map
www.k2nesoft.com/subway/nastemap/nindex.html

The Money Pit
The U.S. Military
www.yahoo.com/Government/Military/

Amazing Stories
O. J. Simpson Case
tvnet.com/0J/oj.html

FAMOUS LINES

"Do you hear something?"—Jurassic Park
Understanding Hearing Loss
www.boystown.org/cbcc/underst.htm

"We're gonna need a bigger boat."—Jaws
Titanic Home Page
ccu6.tpswich.gil.com.au/~balgarry/main.html

"They're here."—Poltergeist
Meeting the In-laws
fermi.clas.virginia.edu/~smw4s/adp/meeting.html

"Yabba-dabba-doo!"—The Flintstones
Babble
www.lua.upt.es/~gvirtual/babble.eng.html

"What time is it?"—Back to the Future
World (Wide Web) Time
dev-com.com/~advantage/time.htm

"Phone home."—E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial
Central Source Yellow Pages
www.telephonebook.com/

"You can fly."—Hook
The Wright Brothers Page
www.ernet.com/stevinmc/TigerWebFree.html

"I hate snakes."—Raiders of the Lost Ark
Mastering Phobias
ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Richard_Stern/

"Oh, rats."—Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade
Mickey Mouse
www.achilles.net/~htmfds/Mickey.html

"Pass the mashed potatoes."—Close Encounters of the Third Kind
Food Art
members.aol.com/cbowd2/DNkome.html

"We're on a mission from God."—The Blues Brothers
The Vatican
web.sau.edu/~hamiller/hod/vatican2.html

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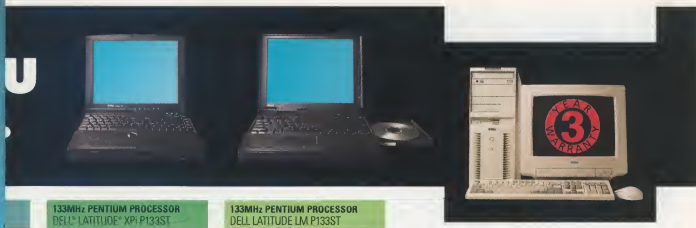

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DELL LATITUDE	ADD
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Upgrade to 24MB RAM	$399
Upgrade to an 810MB Hard Drive	$200
28.8 XJACK®/Cabled Modem	$259
3Com Ethernet 10BASE-T Network Card	$159
Nylon Carrying Case	$69
Leather Carrying Case	$129

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- 8X EIDE CD-ROM Drive
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- Altec Lansing ACS-5 Speakers
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- 8X EIDE CD-ROM Drive
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- 2.5GB Hard Drive [12ms]
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- 1.6GB Hard Drive [10ms]
- 15TX Trinitron Monitor (13.7" v
- 64-bit PCI 2MB DRAM Video
- 8X EIDE CD-ROM Drive
- Microsoft Windows 95/30 Day Free Support/Dell Mouse
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- ★ *Upgrade to a 2.5GB hard drive add $120.*
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- ★ **1.6GB Hard Drive [10ms]**
- 15LS Monitor (13.7" v.i.s.)
- 9FX Motion Graphics Accelerator with 2MB VRAM
- ★ **8X EIDE CD-ROM Drive**
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